Factsheet Five #35

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Founderer Emeritus
St. Michael D. Miller, retd.
Spiritual Advisor
St. Stephen Xavier of Trever
Visual Arts Critic
Anni Ackner

(Anni is taking a vacation this month to preside over the opening of her fabulously successful children's bookstore, **Tell Me A Story.** If you're in the area, you should stop by and support this business: 9 N. Fifth St., Reading, Pennsylvania is where to find it.)

Moving & Shaking
John Held Jr.
Poetry Critic
P.J. Bellomo
Special Guest Reviewers
Jay Dobis
Andrew Koran
Carolyn MacDonald
J.B. Miller
Dan Romanchik
Alyce Wittenstein
Official Curmudgeon
Garry De Young
Utility Infielder
Geof Huth
Fisherman
Joe Lane
Aural Arts Critics
Kevin Byrne
L.J. Cunningham
Karin Falcone
Tom Gogola
Ken Johnson
William Meckley
Jay Mentes
Cris Elligott Rowles
Carol Schutzbank
Kyle Silfer
Dina Williams
Experioddica Consultant
Bob Grumman
Staph Trickster
Misha
Videonetworker
Belka Stamas
Official Conspirator
Kerry W. Thornley, KSC
Aural Editor Emeritus
Shane Williams
Contributing Artists (and page numbers)
Andy Amster (75,82)
Ace Backwords (40)
E.J. Barnes (86)
Jim Blanchard (132)
Rod Carty (88)
Russell Christian (33)
Chris Curtis (60,120)
Art Delano (131)
Joe E. (19,52,76,93,129)
A.R. Eaden (32)
John Eberly (119)
Ferret (115)
Wayne Henderson (94,122)
William T. Hough (56)
David Lee Ingersoll (17,99,124,130)
Michael Kelly (1,92)
Tuli Kupferberg (79)
K. Lemming (27,70,95)
Gene Mahoney (64)
J.P. Morgan (16)
Randy Moore (133)
Mark Neville (16)
Larry Oberc (125)
Tim Paxton (49)
Walt Phillips (3)
Matt Towler (91,93)
Shannon Wheeler (9,14,96)
Jason Whitley (132)
Front Cover by
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A glossary of unusual terms used in FF is available for a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Guidelines for artists are available for a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Back issues of **FACTSHEET FIVE** are available as follows:

#1,2,3,4,17.1	$1 each
#18,20-33	$2 each
#5-17, 34	$3 each
#19	$10 each
Complete set	$80

Please see the facing page for new subscription rates.

Next Deadline:
May 20, 1990

(music deadline May 10, 1990)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Subscription Rates 1

About your mailing label 1

Besides telling you when your subscription runs out, this section explains the various ways you can get **FACTSHEET FIVE.**

Æditorial 2

In which the Æditor spouts off about the joys of bulk mailing, mistakes which subscribers make, and sundry other topics.

Changes of Address 3

Lost Addresses 3

Do *you* know where any of these people have gone?

Dead Zines 3

Alas, another list of people who have recently ceased publishing.

Errata 4

Yes, we make mistakes. Here's a list of the ones from last issue.

T-Shirt Reviews 4

Artifact Reviews 5

Artifacts are things that have a presence beyond being carriers of print—buttons, hats, toys, and other goodies.

Software Reviews 6

Important Events 9

Mail Art Contacts 9

Miscellaneous News 10

FACTSHEET FIVE Projects 12

News of books you can buy from us, sales of our mailing list (and how to avoid getting your name sold), the FF index and t-shirts, and ways you can get pounds of zines for only the cost of postage.

Getting Zines 13

If you're new to the world of zines, please take a few moments to read this advice on ordering copies.

Noted but not seen 14

Zines which sent us advertising instead of copies.

Those Funny Numbers 14

How to read the pagecount code at the end of each review.

Advertising Rates 14

Publisher's Choice 16

In which a few exciting zines from the past two months are highlighted. Featured in this issue: **THE ACT, CRYONICS, GOAT GAP GAZETTE, JERSEY BEAT, PANMAG, THE SHADOW,** and **STORY COMIX**

Zine Reviews 17

This is where to look for periodicals, unless they are oriented primarily to music, comics or poetry—for which see the next three sections.

Music Zine Reviews 60

Comics Reviews 70

Poetry Reviews 76

Both poetry zines and chapbooks will be found in this section.

Pamphlet Reviews 82

Reviews of pamphlets, booklets, leaflets and other non-periodical items which are not perfect bound or hardcover.

Movers and Shakers 86

In this issue, John Held, Jr. returns with a discussion of the prospects for mail art in the 1990s.

The Fishing Hole 91

Joe Lane discusses alternative press syndicates.

Why Publish? 93

In which several publishers answer this curious question.

Conspiracy Corner 94

Kerry Thornley discusses the prospects for communist anarchism, conspiracies and his own sex life.

Curmudgeon Corner 85

Garry De Young reveals the result of his most recent court case and looks at the question of why we have government.

Video Reviews 96

NTSC Cyberbeat 97

Belka Stamas talks about where to find actors for your video productions.

Audio Reviews 99

If it's on record, tape or CD, this is where to find it.

The Thylacine and the Tiger Quoll 114

A short story by Misha with an illustration by Ferret.

Book Reviews 119

Letters 129

The readers talk back.

FACTSHEET FIVE
MAGAZINE
PUBLISHED BY M Kelly 90

Welcome to another issue of the zine of crosscurrents and cross-pollination. Available by mail or in person from Mike Gunderloy, 6 Arizona Ave., Rensselaer, NY 12144-4502; phone (518)-479-3707 (24-hour answering machine, so call anytime); 300/1200/2400 baud phone (518)-479-3879 (call anytime you have a computer handy). This is Pretzel Press publication #829 and is intended for direct Bulk Mailing to subscribers and good people across the country, around the world, and right into your face. Press run: 7000 copies. 35th issue, April 1990.

Regular subscription (anywhere in North America): $3.00 or 8 IRCs per issue up to five issues, $16 or 40 IRCs for a six issue (one year) subscription.

First class subscription (U.S. only): $3.75 per issue up to five issues, $21 for a six issue (one year) subscription.

Library subscription (includes the index and first class mailing in a protective envelope) (U.S. only): $4.50 per issue up to five issues, $23 for a six issue (one year) subscription.

Air Mail subscription (outside U.S. only): $7 or 18 IRCs per issue up to five issues, $38 or 95 IRCs for a six issue (one year) subscription.

Lifetime subscription (anywhere in North America): $75.
Lifetime subscription (outside of North America): $190.
Supporting subscription (anywhere in North America): $125.
Supporting subscription (outside of North America): $330.

I accept for payment cash (U.S. or otherwise), check or money order *drawn in U.S. funds,* unused U.S. stamps or international reply coupons. Please note that I cannot accept checks or money orders drawn in foreign currency. I am, however, happy to accept cash (bank notes) from any country at the official rate of exchange. If you live in a country whose currency does not convert, please write and we'll work out a deal. Those in the Warsaw Pact are encouraged to request a sample copy in exchange for local publications, underground or otherwise.

Unless you specify otherwise, all subscriptions start with the current issue.

Publishers and others who get their issues without paying may have them delivered first class for $1 per issue. This rate is only valid if you would have received that issue anyhow.

This is where I explain the mailing code, on the far right of the first line of the address label.

A number indicates the last issue that you'll be getting. So if the number is "35", you need to Do Something if you want to keep getting FF. If the number is "35" and you don't even know why you got this, you probably have a Secret Admirer or something. Wanna subscribe?

There are a couple of things that can flank this number. If it's flanked with asterisks (*35*), you've paid for, and should be getting, first class postage. If it's flanked with carets (^35^), then this is a trade copy for which you paid first-class postage, after which you will revert to bulk-mail trade copies. If it's flanked with plus signs (+35+) you're getting a library subscription, including first-class postage, mailing envelopes, and the index.

"!" indicates that you've got nothing to worry about, because you're on the staph, you won a contest, or you just got lucky.

"A" means that you're getting this because of your artwork; either you sent me some or I want you to send me some, or both.

"B" means I'm trading for a book you sent.

"D" means that you're a distributor and so you get one copy for yourself as a freebie. I'm looking for new distributors, people who think they can sell at least ten copies and want to split the proceeds. Distributors get a 40% wholesale discount on all copies, and may sell on consignment. The number after the colon is how many copies I think I'm sending you. For more information on terms, send an SASE.

"L" means you're a lifetime subscriber, and will receive every issue of the magazine as long as either it or you is alive. Lifetime subscribers get their copies sent out bulk mail, without extra goodies. If you want extra goodies, you should be a supporting subscriber (see below) instead. Lifetime subscribers may upgrade to supporting status at any time by paying the current difference in rates.

"M" means you sent me music to review. I usually allow 2 issues for a single, 3 for a tape, or 4 for an LP, but I screw up a bit, so let me know if you're owed more. (Or less).

"P" means you're a prisoner. **FACTSHEET FIVE** is always free to prisoners, but you need to keep in touch to keep getting it, otherwise I'll assume the copies aren't getting through to you. Wardens, you gotta pay like anyone else. Prisoners in mental institutions are extended the same privileges as those in allegedly-saner criminal institutions.

"R" means that this is a review/checking copy. It is for you to have to check the review I've done of your zine, or to be able to do a review of mine. I would like to see further copies of yours for future review—though of course you're not obligated to publish a review. I will continue to send you R copies as long as I stay on your mailing list, whether you write reviews or not. If you publish infrequently, I expect at least a note every six months to keep you on the mailing list.

"R?" means that I'd like you to consider sending copies of your zine in return for review/checking copies of mine.

"S" means that you are a Supporting Subscriber, and therefore exempt from nonsense. Supporting subscribers get their issues sent First Class, with the index included. They also get free copies of **FACTSHEET FIVE** publications as they're issued—most recently the **WHY PUBLISH?** booklet. Right now we're up to about 92 Supporting subscribers, but there's always room for one more. Just to encourage you, I'm going to send the 100th Supporting Subscriber free copies of **HOW TO PUBLISH A FANZINE, WHY PUBLISH?, NOBODY LOVES A VISUAL ARTS CRITIC**, a **FACTSHEET FIVE** T-shirt, and a set of back issues—if this happens to you, it'll be like getting your Supporting subscription for free!

"V" means you sent me a videotape to review. If you require the tape to be returned, one video is good for one issue in trade; if you leave it with me for the archives, one video is worth four issues.

Any of the above followed by a number (like "M/35") indicate the issue you'll have to renegotiate to keep getting FF. *You must get in touch with me at least once every two issues, regardless of the mailing code, to continue getting* **FF**! This applies to prisoners, artists, traders, everyone!

Send me your zine, drop me a line, do **SOMETHING** so I know you're still out there. Actually, this doesn't apply to subscribers, only to people getting the zine for free. Clear?

Please take a moment to check your mailing label. If there are any mistakes, you have to let me know. They won't fix themselves. And you won't get any further warning if your subscription has run out.

And remember, **FF** is sent *bulk mail*. Not only does this make it slow (though, I hope, not *too* slow), but it means undeliverable copies go to that Big Post Office In The Sky. So **PLEASE** get your COAs to me promptly to avoid missing issues. I am not responsible for copies lost due to unannounced moves.

Thanks to Jerry B., Jerry Benz, Brick Pillow, Lydia Brooks, Brian Burch, Brendan Conley, William C. Coppersmith III, Danny, Charles Fabrizio, Sue Frank, Albert Huffstickler, Elaine Long, Rosemary Pardoe, Johnny Potseed, D. Tremblay, Joe Workman and Donna Young for their generous donations towards publishing this issue. I am much encouraged by the number of generous publishers willing to contribute to keeping **FF** alive. I don't require publishers to subscribe, but if you can afford it, I appreciate it and it helps.

If you want **FF** sent to a friend, just send me their address and $3, or $3.75 if you're in a hurry. **FF** makes a great Christmas, birthday, or Bar Mitzvah present. I'll mark it as a gift from you unless you specify otherwise.

In lieu of sending stamps, money, fanzines, artwork, books, or music, you can get **FF** by sending me something to review that I haven't seen before, or by bartering canned goods, negotiable securities, wind-up sushi, shark's teeth, Magic Rocks, limited edition wallpaper, or other interesting or amusing flotsam from our society.

Thanks to Steve Ahlquist, Mac Andrews, Bill A.O.R., I. Bachur, Bag of Water, Bob Black, Mykel Board, Greg Bunch, Brian Burch, Gerald Burns, Ed Connors, Art Delano, Paul Di Filippo, Jim Downard, The Fane, Jim Fortney, Phelps Gates, Tim Goebel, Don Gruenweller, Gene R. Guthrie, Wayne Honath, Jennie Jacobson, Witta Jensen, Herb Jue, Lenore Kester, Steve Lynch, Mark Montoni, R.J. Neubauer, Walt Noiseux, The Oregonian, Hal Palmer, Perry Peckham, Steve Prothero, Aaran Rainbow, Phil Scalice, Dale Speirs, Daniel Sperry, Jack Stevenson, Mark Strickert, Jim Testa, Identity Thompson, Rosemary West (and thanks for the software contacts!), Jon West, Rhonda-Lisa Wilk, Bill Withers, Martin Morse Wooster and Bud Wooten for sending new and unknown zines for me to review in this issue. Some of you will find that your donations did not get reviewed—this is because I didn't have time, not because I didn't enjoy them. I really am grateful to those of you out there acting as my spotters in the world of the small press, and wish I could review everything—but the priority goes to those folks actively trading with me. Special thanks to J. Concrete of **NO AARHUS** for the pile of classic Scandinavian zines.

ÆDITORIAL

I got three bucks cash in late January and a note that said "Enclosed is $3 for a copy of Factsheet Five. Thanks, Bob." That was it. Don't let this happen to you—before sending off an order for anything, make sure that your address is on it! Oh, and Bob—if you're reading this, please get in touch and I'll send you your copy.

It's not just readers who do silly things like this. Publishers do it too. Take the case of Jeremy Horelick, for example. He sent me a book of poems called **JUSTICE AND MAYONAISE**, which I'm not going to review, with no address on either the booklet or his letter. Maybe it was on the envelope. This is winter, and envelopes are kindling. So it goes.

I have new eight-page flyers available which have a sample of reviews from a typical issue of FF (this very issue yu're holding, in fact), talk a bit about zines, and tell people how to order **FF**. Why am I telling you this, since you already know how? Because some of you have been asking for ways to spread the word about **FF**, and this is the best way I know of to do it. If you would like some of these flyers to stuff in your letters, hand out at the mall, or leave at a convention, just drop me a line telling me how many to send.

Bulk Mail service seems to be getting even more dismal. A number of copies of the last issue took over three weeks to be delivered; one took about five weeks to go from here to Schenectady, a distance I can drive in 45 minutes. If you're getting your copies bulk mail, I won't consider them lost until four weeks after I mail them...you can call before that and I'll commiserate, but I won't send a replacement. If you want quick, sure delivery of your zine, I suggest you pay for first class mailing—an extra buck for those getting trade copies, or 75¢ for those actually paying for the zine. I would if I were you.

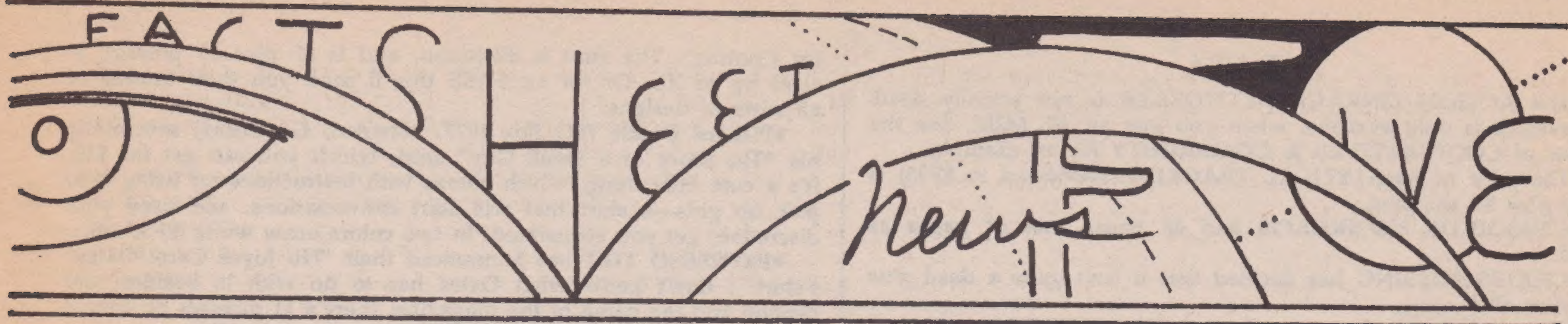
This issue is dedicated to the memory of Mel Most. I didn't know Mel that well, and now I wish I had gotten to know him better. His strong vision of the liberatory potential of anarchism, though, helped keep me going through some rough times, and his unflagging energy was a constant inspiration. I'll miss him.

NOTE: YOU MAY HAVE ALREADY SENT FOR THIS.

CHILD ABUSE?

It's best to apply for a Social Security number when children are born-

WOULD YOU KNOWINGLY DO THIS TO YOUR CHILD? SEND $_{0}3^{\underline{00}}$ FOR INFO TO HELP YOU AVOID THE LIFELONG CONSEQUENCES OF SUCH AN ACT! SOME ADULTS HAVE BEEN TERRIBLY TRAUMATIZED AT BIRTH! SEND TO FRANK PEARL, 61 S JULIAN #FF2, DENVER, COLORAOD 80219.



CHANGES OF ADDRESS

•**35TH PARALLEL** and David Rhoden are at 1634 Laurel #1, Knoxville, TN 37916

•**BACK BRAIN RECLUSE** has a new American subscription address: Anne Marsden, 31468 Calle la Purisima, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675-2547.

•**BIG DICK WORSHIP** has moved again, this time to PO Box 270247, West Hartford, CT 06127.

•**BIG MIND** and Stephen Harris now have their big ideas at 2089 Oxford St., Halifax, NS, B3C 2T3, CANADA.

•**CANADADAPA** is probably being taken over by Kathleen Moore-Freeman, #18-1455 W. 8th Ave., Vancouver, BC V5K 2Z4, CANADA.

•**CELTIC FRINGE** has moved to 6210 W. Gunnison, Chicago, IL 60630.

•**CONVOLUSIONS** and Cerebral Shorts are convulsing at 212 Victoria Road, Northcote 3070, AUSTRALIA.

•**DASEIN** and Stephen Finn may be found at 2 VFW Pkwy., Roslindale, MA 02131.

•Edward Dean has moved to PO Box 4520, St. Thomas, VI 00803.

•**DE NAR** is now at Postbus 1204, 1210 Brussel 21, BELGIUM.

•Dimestore Stories and Ian Shires have gone south to PO Box 40391, St. Petersburg, FL 33743-0391.

•**Donny the Punk** is back in jail, with no fixed address as yet. But if you write c/o J. Jones, 185 W. Houston St., New York, NY 10014 it should get to him eventually.

•Firebird Arts and Music flew off to PO Box 14785, Portland, OR 97214-9998.

•**FUCK THE TORIES** and Judith Hanna and Joseph Nicholas now take their recreation at 5A Frinton Road, Stamford Hill, London N15 6NH, UK.

•**THE GRINDHOUSE JOURNAL** now sits c/o Nevele Hotel Service Desk, Ellenville, NY 12428.

•**Wayne Honath** now doodles at PO Box 11934, Pittsburgh, PA 15228-0934.

•*As of June 1990*, Sean Wolf Hill, **COUNTER CULTURE, COMPOST MODERN LIFE**, and the Zip-A-Di-Doo-Dada Foundation will be zipping over to 7625 Casstown-Clark Rd., Casstown, OH 45312.

•The Independent Feature Project has gone to 132 W. 21st St., 6th Fl., New York, NY 10011.

•Debbie Jaffe and Master/Slave Relationship have relocated to PO Box 191211, San Francisco, CA 94119-1211.

•**Jaundiced Eye** and Dave Crowley may be seen at PO Box 454, Rockville, MD 20848.

•G.X. Jupitter-Larsen now performs in PO Box 323, Fremont, CA 94537.

•Tad Kepley has finally settled down at PO Box 401721, Brooklyn, NY 11240. This address should be good for a while, and he'd like to hear from anyone who ordered something from him but did not receive it.

•**KILLBABY** and Steve Fentone are sharpening their knives at PO Box 742, Stn. Q, Toronto, ONT, M4T 2N5, CANADA.

•**LEISURE** and the "Anticopyright" poster service are now at PO Box 368, Cardiff, CF2 1SQ, Wales, UK.

•**Le Peintre NATO** has migrated to 16, Rue Eugene Sue, 75018 Paris, FRANCE.

•**MEASURES OF CENTRAL TENDENCY** and David Ross have joined the fun at 1341 Williamson St., Madison, WI 53703.

•**NAKED LADIES DANCE** and Stev have trotted over to PO Box 1148, W. Warwick, RI 02893.

•R.J. Neubauer is off to PO Box 18307, Rochester, NY 14618.

•**NO POETRY**, Jullee-Peezlee and Dyslexic Publications are now in PO Box 4763, Boulder, CO 80306.

•**NOVOID** and Colin Hinz has moved to 208 Laclie St., Toronto, ONT, L3V 4N4, CANADA.

•**OUTER SHELL** and Roy Harper may be found at 9807 61st Ln. N, Pinellas Park, FL 34666-3131.

•**Plecid** now emanates from PO Box 1399, San Francisco, CA 94101.

•**SKIDGE** and Mike Lupica are to be found at 76 Sapphire Ln., Franklin Park, NJ 08823.

•**TOXIC YUPPIE DEATH** is now at 1209 Eastwood Dr., Mayfield Hts., OH 44124.

•**UNION OF OPPOSITES** and Denise Dee have gotten together at 604 Coal Ave. SE, Albuquerque, NM 87102.

•Violet Glass Oracle tapes may be consulted at 5546 Harvest Ln. #B, Toledo, OH 43623.

•**WEIRD SMUT** may be reached via PO Box 173, Hollywood, CA 90078.

Remember, since it costs me 30¢ just to get your COA if the Post Office tells me, and remailing your **FF** would cost me the price of another copy plus first class postage (they don't return whole issues, just covers), I'm not inclined to send you a replacement when this happens. If you want to keep your collection complete, send me your Change of Address as soon as you know it!

LOST ADDRESSES

Anybody got a current address for any of these?

•**CONTINENTAL SPECTATOR**

•**Barry Deutsch** (please contact William Dockery)

•**EMERGENCE**

•**Jerry Johnson**, a vanished subscriber formerly of Glendale, Arizona.

•**Cynthia Roebuck** (please contact William Dockery)

•**VISIONS OF LIGHT** (please contact William Dockery)

•**X-Cess America**

By the way, if you've had any correspondents go missing lately, feel free to send their names to be added to this listing.

DEAD ZINES

All of the following have ceased publication in the last few months:

•**ALBANY REVIEW**

•**BIG DICK WORSHIP**

•**BRAINHAZE**

•**CHARITY PERFORMANCE**

•**CROW**

•**DISASTER AREA**

•**DIRTY LINEN UPDATE** (I hasten to add that **DIRTY LINEN** itself is still publishing!)

•**DRIPPINGWETTE GAZETTE**

•**THE FINAL FRONTIER** (may not be dead but at the very least between OEs)

•**GARGOYLE**

•**HIGH SCHOOL IS A WASTELAND** (succeeded by **ENDLESS RESISTANCE**)

•**MINISTRY OF COGNIZANCE**

•**POGUE MAHONE**

•**RESONANCE** isn't quite dead, but it's suspending publication for six months.

•**TERRAPIN SYNDICATE**

•**TRIAL SIZE**

ERRATA

•The **ACTION LINKAGE NETWORKER** is not actually dead; however, it is only available when you join an AL M2M. See the review of **COOPERATIVES & COMMUNITY** for an example.

•The price of **ANALYTICAL TRACKING** (reviewed in FF33) is $7.50 plus $2 shipping.

•**CEHSOIKOE HSOIKOE#10** had 48 pages, not 4* pages as listed.

•**CHAIRS MISSING** has decided that it isn't quite a dead zine yet after all.

•The correct price for a sample copy of **COMICS F/X** is $2, not $1 as I printed in #33.

•The correct address for **FANGOOZINE** is 410 E. College, Carbondale, IL 62901.

•The price for **FINE MADNESS** has changed to $9 per year or $5 for a sample.

•Please see above for the proper COA for **FUCK THE TORIES.**

•I botched the Zip Code in the listing for **(in•sit)** in #33; the correct address is PO Box 17406, Arlington, VA 22216.

•The correct address for **IN THE THROES** (reviewed in #32) is Punch/Press, PO Box 844, Rockford, IL 61105.

•The Pirate Radio tapes mentioned last issue can be obtained for $4 *CASH* only.

•I got confused as to the address for Judy Pokras, who offered to do art for zines: you can contact her at PO Box 1598, Stuyvesant Stn., New York, NY 10009.

•The correct price for a sample issue of **THE SPOREPRINT** is $2.

•Susan Dorne's corporate name is **Unicorn Productions Ltd.**.

•Last issue I reviewed some poetry by Carla Yorker. Only problem is that I called her Carla Vogel. Oops. Must be the drugs. Sorry.

T-SHIRTS

•**Coors Kills** is the caption on a new shirt from Alternative Graphics (PO Box 124, Station F, Buffalo, NY 14212). The Coors logo appears in red, dripping blood, and underneath it says "Bullets for Contras". The shirt is all-cotton, and is $7 plus $1 postage in sizes up to XL. Or for an SASE they'll send you their catalog of all sorts of designs.]

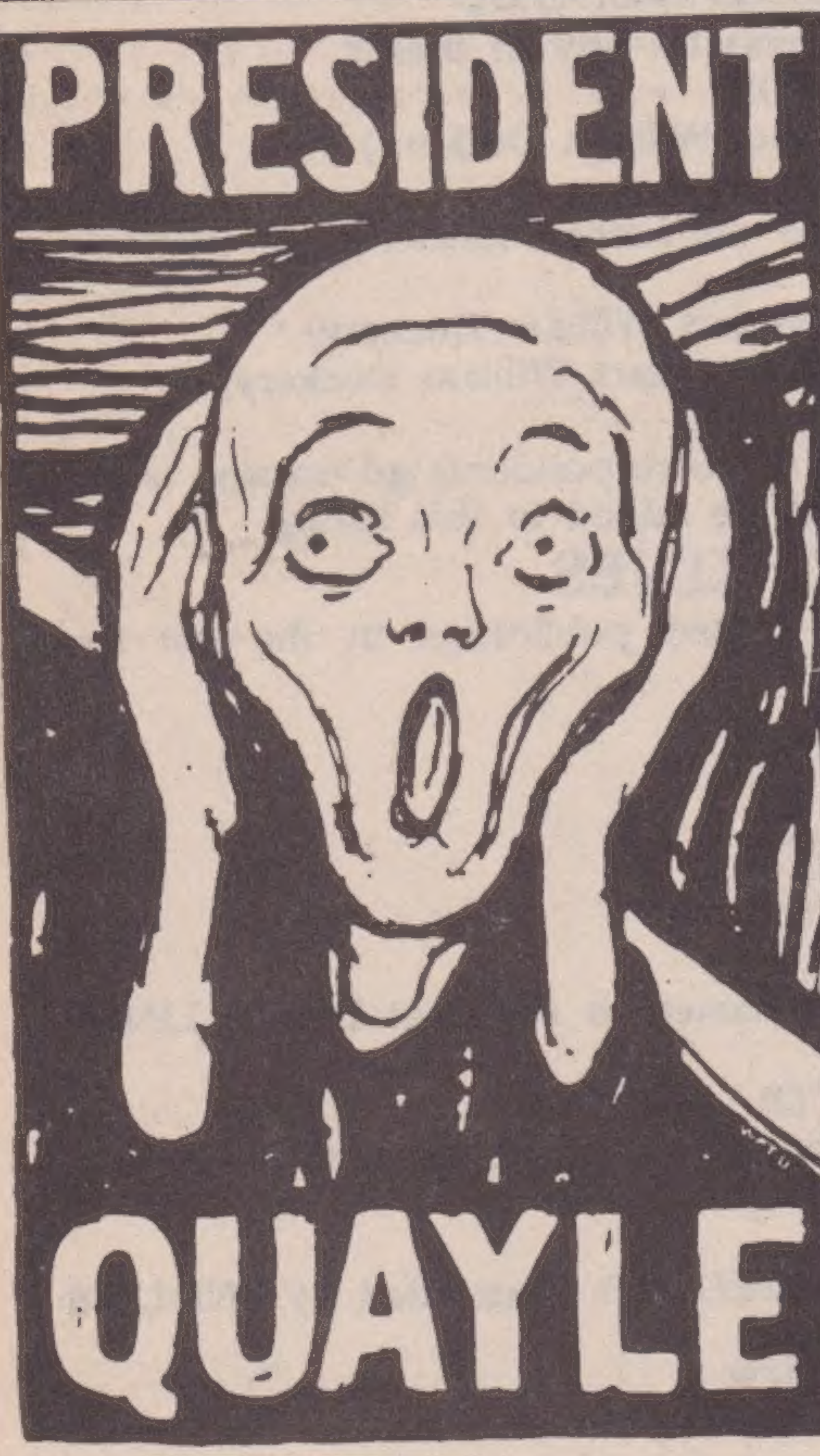
•**Pilliard Dickle** (PO Box 1077, Newnan, GA 30264) sent along his "The Story of a Swell Guy" shirt, which you can get for $12. It's a cute little thing, which comes with instructions on using it to pick up girls—a shirt that will start conversations, and used with discretion, get you acquainted. In two colors on w white 50-50 shirt.

•**EXPRESSO TILT** has announced their "No Joyce Carol Oates" t-shirt. I don't know what Oates has to do with it; besides that caption and the name of the magazine, there's 11 pictures of Ronnie Reagan here, each with alterations drawn on in fluorescent hot orange ink—beards, glasses, and more. In two colors on a white all-cotton shirt, this one'll set you back $10 from 737 Wharton St., Philadelphia, PA 19147.

•Steve Cilla runs **Fuzzy Ink** and he sent me three shirts. The first features your typical Chinese leader head shot with blood running from his mouth, red and black on a white shirt, captioned simply "June 3-4, 1989". The second is for Hosstopia, a bizarre little band. Their shirt features Hoss on a motor scooter surrounded by bright icons; red and green on a white shirt. Finally, there's the "La Pina Colada Mix" red, blue and black on white shirt, showing Bush, Noriega and North together with the legend "Just add $$: Ingedients CIA, Contras, Cocaine". The shirts are 50/50 power tees, and they're $10 each from Steve at 901 E. Hedrick, Tucson, AZ 85719.

•**The Grinning Plowman** shirt features a sort of archetypical hand-painted face on the front, on a pink 50-50 shirt surrounded by fluorescent green and yellow clouds. For some reason it feels a bit pagan, though I can't quite put my finger on why. On the back there's a quote about dignity in the modern industrial world which I rather like. They come in L and Xl from Meg Williams, 910 Woodmont Blvd. #N-6, Nashville, TN 37204, for $12 cash, MO or cashier's check.

•**The Intergalactic House of Fruitcakes** (1 Shelton Plc., North St., Heavitree, Exeter, EX12 2RE, UK) has a new shirt out with artwork by E.J. Barnes. It's got an obscure religious symbol on the



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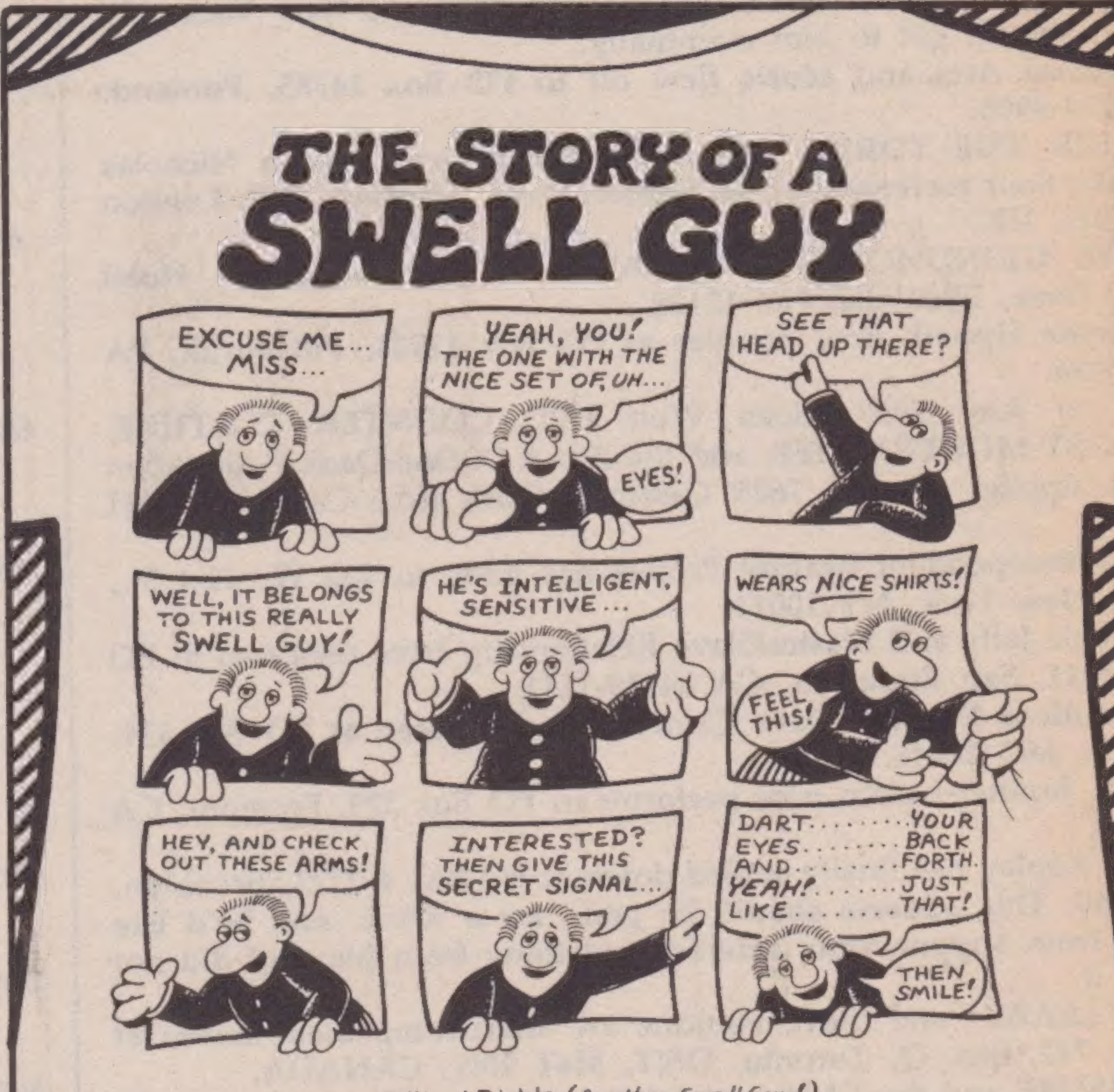
THE STORY OF A SWELL GUY
EXCUSE ME... MISS...
YEAH, YOU! THE ONE WITH THE NICE SET OF, UH...
EYES!
SEE THAT HEAD UP THERE?
WELL, IT BELONGS TO THIS REALLY SWELL GUY!
HE'S INTELLIGENT, SENSITIVE...
WEARS NICE SHIRTS!
FEEL THIS!
HEY, AND CHECK OUT THESE ARMS!
INTERESTED? THEN GIVE THIS SECRET SIGNAL...
DART........YOUR
EYES........BACK
AND........FORTH.
YEAH!......JUST
LIKE........THAT!
THEN SMILE!

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front—a sun, some arrows, a couple of faces, a skull, a paisley and more are involved) and the back has the IGHF slogan "Hail Otis!" and the name of the group. $15 including air mail shipping in black ink on a white 50/50 shirt.

•I reviewed the **Little Green Man** shirts last time but didn't have ordering information. Now I do. The shirts, including the pensive pig, are $12 plus $2 shipping from 3776 Manila Ave., Oakland, CA 94609. The LGM catalog is $1 in stamps or cash, refundable with your first order.

•Here's some more cool shirts from **MUTILATION GRAPHICS** (3765 Oriole Ct., Shrub Oak, NY 10588), $8 each (plus $2 shipping for the first shirt and 50¢ for each additional shirt) in sizes up to XL (they can special order up to XXXXL), black ink on white 50-50 shirts. One I especially like is a reproduction of a classic movie poster for the original production of *The Fly*, including a warning that you have to sign a waiver to see it alone and "$100 if you prove it can't happen!" Then there's the poster for *The Texas Chainsaw Massacre*, with ol' Leatherface at his best. Last up in this pile is *Psycho*, with a screaming Janet Leigh in the shower. This is just a small sample of what's in their catalog, which you can get for a buck.

•**PDQ PRODUCTIONS** (the folks behind the President Quayle shirt) sent me their latest, a sort of full-face gargoyle that's rather eye-catching. It's screened in black on a white 50-50 shirt, and a copy can be yours for $10 from PO Box 6864, Arlington, VA 22206-0864.

•The **President Quayle** shirt itself is still available and seems more apropos than ever. It features the image from Munch's "The Scream" captioned simply "President Quayle". To get one, send $12 to PDQ Productions, PO Box 6864, Arlington, VA 22206-0864.

•I'm happy to announce that Freddie Baer is continuing the **T-Shirt of the Month Club** into 1990, although she's taking a break until July. You need to make a three month commitment for $24 to get on her list. In return, you'll get a new silkscreened shirt each month. The December shirt had a sort of Native American year-end theme, while I would call January's "Venus in the Jurassic". I've been a member since the beginning, and wouldn't dream of dropping out. To contact Freddie, write to her c/o Mystopia, PO Box 410151, San Francisco, CA 94141-0151. February's shirt was white ink on a black 100% cotton shirt, showing the pastoral butterfly about to be captured by the industrial fly. March I find to be a somewhat confusing image of technology and culture not quite getting along.

ARTIFACTS

•**Action for Reproductive Freedom** (PO Box 2906, Stn. A, Champaign, IL 61820) has "Ban Uterine Slavery" buttons available at $1 each or 3 for $2.

•**Anarcho-homo logo buttons**, featuring the circle-A interlaced with the pink triangle, are available for $1 each from World Power Systems, PO Box 77731, San Francisco, CA 94107. Red, pink and black, they're pretty striking little goodies.

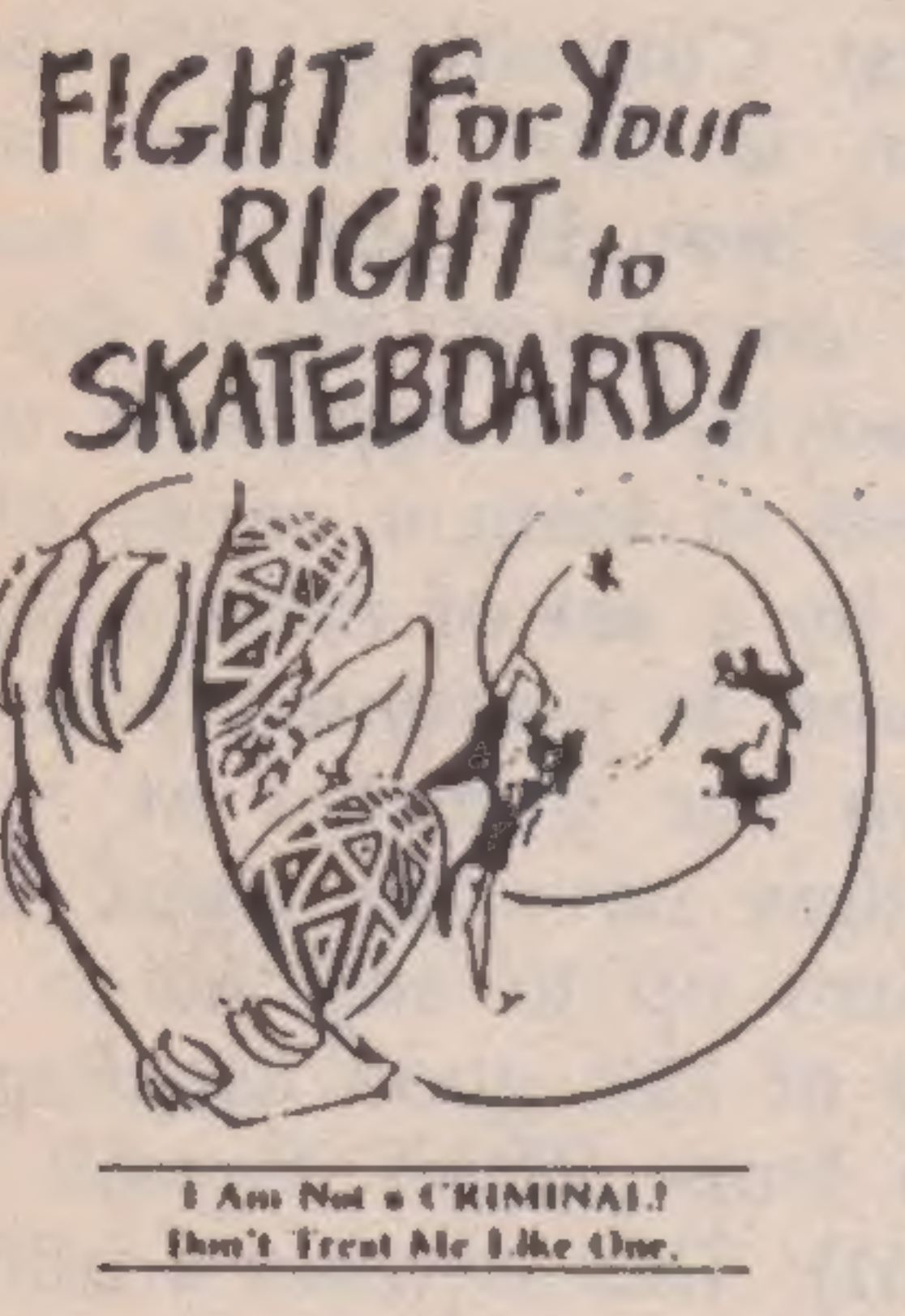
•**Consolidated Lint Corp.** (c/o Donald F. Busky, 7393 Rugby St., Philadelphia,. PA 19138-1236) sent me an envelope full of lint from their dryer. To tell you the truth, I didn't even consider asking how to get more, but if you're interested, write them.

•**David Deming** will send you your name in Braille on an index card; all you have to do is send him an SASE to 715 S. Washington St., Bloomington, IN 47401.

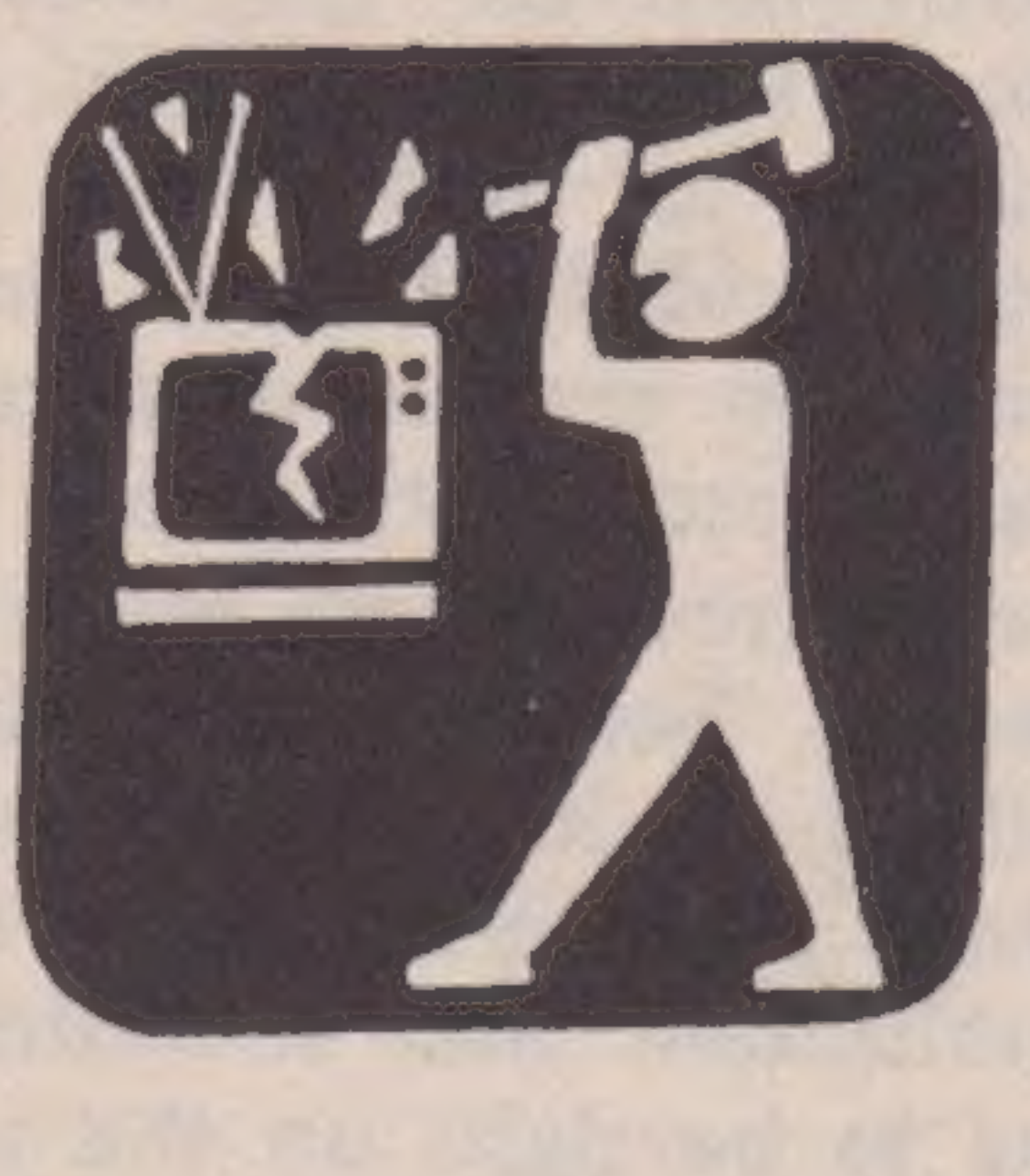
•**The Fenderson Hat** comes from the Fenderson 1989 Bi-Annual Family Reunion, and includes information on the Fendersons, which, I gather, are a family you can join just by saying you are one. Anyhow, it's available for postage (say about two bucks) from Graham Trievel, Box 481 Rte. 113, Lionville, PA 19353.

•Hand drawn **Matchbooks** by Bruce Mitchell are available from Bruce at 7 Clegg St., Worcester, MA 01603-1205. You can get two for $5 or 5 for $10, or for $2 and a stamp you can get a booklet showing the complete set as originally displayed at the Worcester County Institute of Temporary Art.

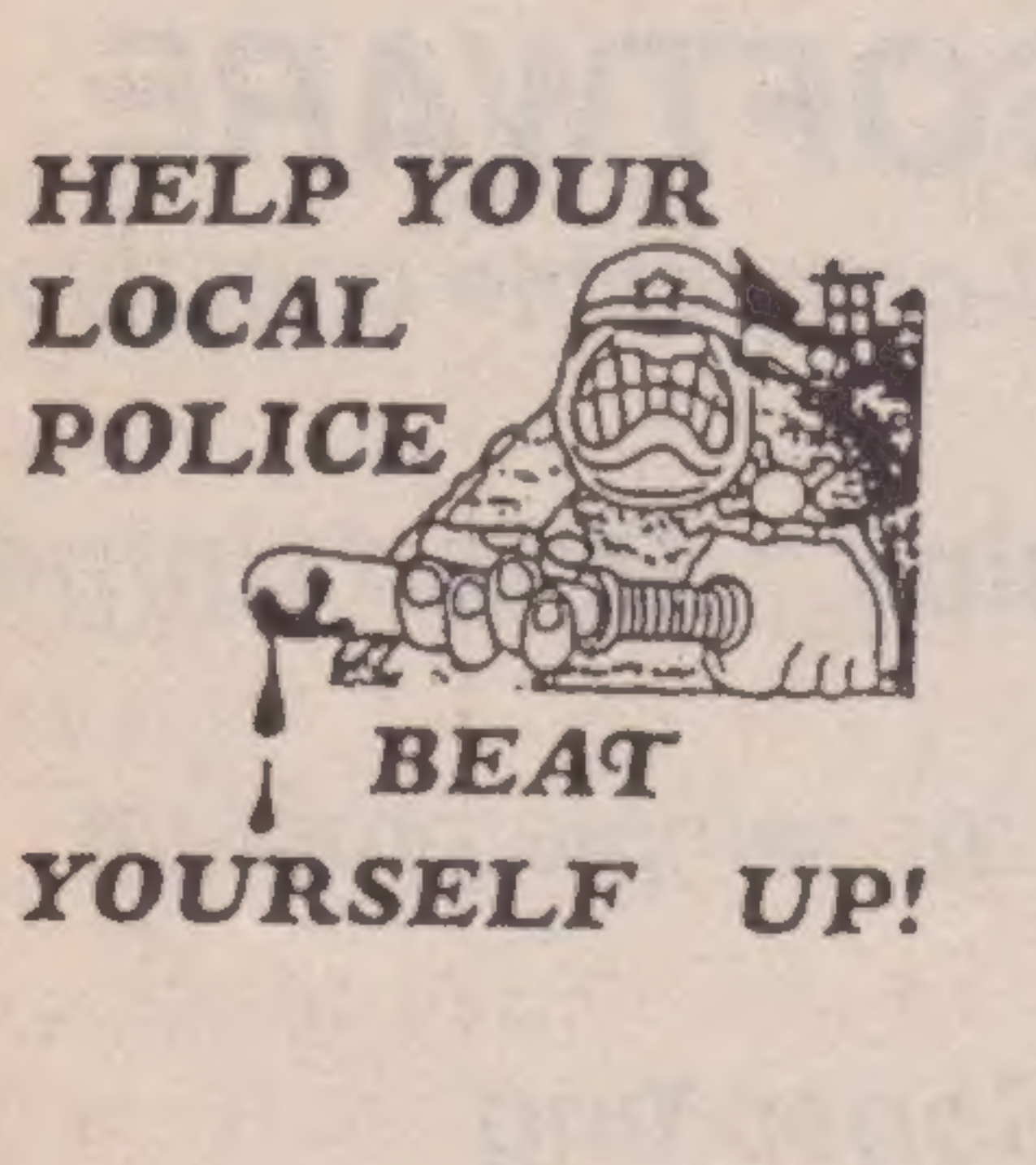
•**NEAT-O TOYS** ($3 from Meltdown Novelties, #167 Dept. A, 5699 Kanan Rd., Agoura, CA 91301): These folks sent a little bag full of plastic toys: a tiny boat, a cowboy boot, a little green pin-on bow tie, a "Beware of Dog" ring, a giant fly, a tiny top, and a plastic businessman about three inches high. It's all pretty colorful,


FIGHT For Your RIGHT to SKATEBOARD!
I Am Not a CRIMINAL! Don't Treat Me Like One.

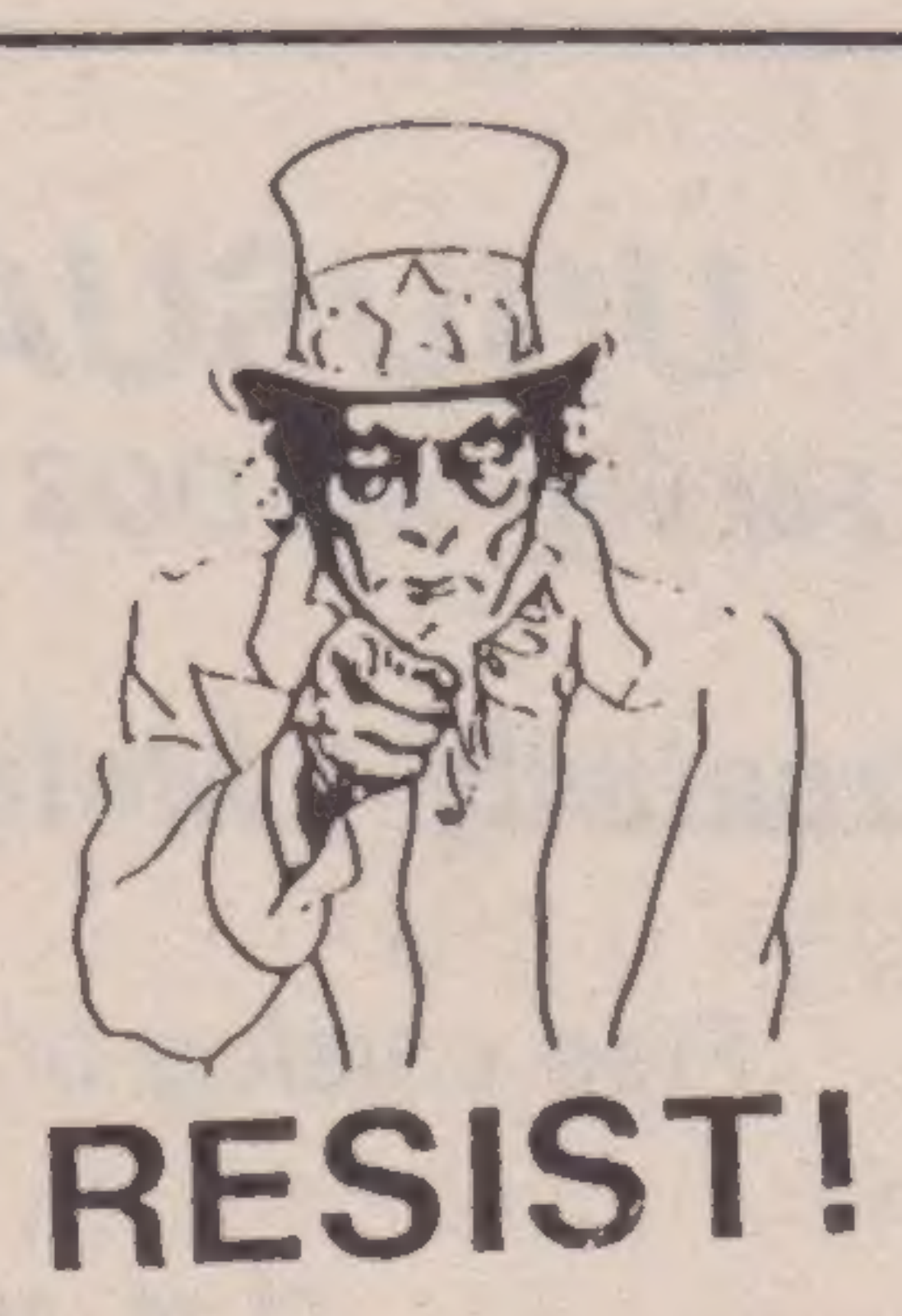
5870
black



5040
purple


HELP YOUR LOCAL POLICE BEAT YOURSELF UP!

5030
blue



5220
red & blue

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and has the look of being made in Hong Kong. I was amused by the name stamped on the fly: "Papco". I don't know about where you are, but it's hard to find this sort of junk in toy stores around here any more.

•**TRINKET FUN** (Graham Trievel, Box 481, Rte. 113, Lionville, PA 19353) is a plastic bag stuffed with foam rubber cows, plastic frogs, tiny cars, jacks, buttons, game pieces, trolls, and other colorful children's flotsam. It's available in trade for similar items.

•**Wahoo Jewelry** (63 1/2 W. Main, Fredonia, NY 14063) sent me a pair of earrings made of wire, ball bearings, and bits of printed circuit board. Priced at $3, but I don't know if that includes shipping or now. Sort of techno-age arty in design.

SOFTWARE

•I will review IBM-PC compatible software personally, and have reviewers for MacIntosh, Amiga, Apple II and Commodore 64 software, so if you know of any interesting programs for these machines, please put them in touch with FF.

Sharp-eyed readers will note that this section is expanding pretty quickly. Of course, part of that is because more has been coming in to review, but part is that I've come to see Shareware as very much in sync with the small press. The idea behind shareware is that you can get the program for a copying fee, or get a copy from a friend or a BBS for free, try it out, and pay only if you like and use it—an alternative to the cash-up-front economy just as zines are an alternative. Anyhow, I'd recommend supporting shareware whenever you have the chance, since it allows you to deal with real human beings, saves you money, and helps undermine the centralization of computer technology.

•**Astrol95** ($6 from PC-SIG, 1030-D E. Duane Ave., Sunnyvale, CA 94086; author's registration is $29.95): An astrology program that quickly calculates and displays charts. It has a good graphical screen display, and software for printing it out on a variety of printers, as well as tabular displays for cases of incompatibility. It also calculates things like midpoints and aspects, and includes some nice utilities like a graphical longitude/latitude locator. Since interpretation is not the thrust of this program, it won't tell you very much if you don't know anything about astrology, though it will recommend books to consult. Also, several important functions are missing from the shareware version, though enough are present to get a good feel for the program, and the enterprising user can get around some of the program's limitations. (IBM)

•**Church Treasurer** ($6 from PC-SIG, 1030-D E. Duane Ave., Sunnyvale, CA 94086; author's registration is $85): This is a simple accounting system geared towards use by those working for reasonably small churches, probably in their spare time. It basically tracks income and expenses, moves money between up to fifteen accounts, and balances bank statements. Unfortunately, the program is crippleware—meaning that certain essential functions are unavailable in the shareware version, notably the ability to set up for a new year. This means you can try out the look and feel of the program, but you can't really give it a workout with your own data. (IBM)

DIGIT FACTORY ($10 from Eclctrcpt, Box 17686, Phoenix, AZ 85011): An artistic and unpredictable hypercard stack, replete with strange sounds and hidden buttons. Patience is required because the maze is complex, and sound generation frequently impedes your search. (And by the way, "searching" is an end in itself.) The collage images jump off the screen; the day when these can be color produced can't come too soon. Software akin to visual poetry and mail art. (Mac, 731K)(Reviewed by PJ Bellomo)

•**The Electric Almanac** ($4.95 from Matrix Software, 315 Marion Ave., Big Rapids, MI 49307): This is freeware, meaning that you can copy the disk from anyone who has it, and use the program for free (or you can download it from the FF BBS, for that matter). It's an astrology-based version of the old Farmer's Almanac, with a couple of dozen functions. It will tell you where to look for hidden objects, when to plant, or what today's astrological reading is. You can get the correct date to get a haircut, convert from gallons to liters or look at a 30-day forecast of when things are going to be hectic. Everything comes up in colorful character-based graphics, and the user interface is completely intuitive and explained on-screen, so there's no need for a manual. In general this is a polished program. I would have liked some notes on just what it takes into account to pick "best" days, but perhaps I wouldn't understand the technical details anyhow. And the input functions are not completely bombproofed; I managed to crash the program a couple of times (notably by telling it I was at the South Pole). But for $4.95, it's a fun and fancy program. Buried in the heart of it, of course, are notes on other software from Matrix and the theory of modern astrology, but no one will make you read those pages if you don't want to. (IBM)

•**Garden City Software Collection #2** ($6 from PC-SIG, 1030-D E. Duane Ave., Sunnyvale, CA 94086; authors' registration is $2 per program): A collection of small programs dating from about three years ago—and they do look a bit dated. Probably the most useful is TIMEZONE, which tells you the time at various points around the world based on what time zone you're in and the computer's internal clock; it's smart enough to know about cities that don't observe daylight savings. Conversely, there's HYPNO, which flashes colorful "hypnotic" patterns on the screen, but wasn't smart enough to recognize an EGA and managed to crash a CGA system. Other programs calculate mortgage costs (instructions would be nice for this one) make sounds, and simulate a tuner or a metronome for a musician. (IBM)

•**GEOMANCY** ($5 from RK West Consulting, PO Box 8059, Mission Hills, CA 91346; registration is $29): Another means of Divination for this outfit, which has brought quite a number of mystical and traditional arts to the computer. Here the reading depends on groups of dots, generated by the computer or chosen by the querent, which are recombined to form a series of figures. These figures in turn are interpreted by a set of fixed rules to give a reading. Before this is done a screen is presented with possible questions to help the user focus on the question at hand. The readings themselves are well done; they have the right amount of generalization that something will turn up in any given one that seems to be right on the mark—sort of like good astrology. (IBM)

•**GRAB Plus** Version 5.6 ($31.95 from ZPAY Payroll Systems, 3516 Ruby St., Franklin Park, IL 60131): This is what a utility ought to be: small, simple, uninstrusive, and useful. The basic idea of GRAB is to take an address of the screen of your word processor and drop it on to an envelope along with your return address. It

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does this, and it does it well. It's the attention to detail, though, that makes this program a winner. The installation and configuration programs are easy to use and supply enough help that the manual is seldom needed. The program will drive a LaserJet, a PostScript printer, an Epson compatible or darn near anything else, and work with any word processor using a text display mode (it was no trouble to use it with Sprint, my WP of choice). Hot keys and colors are user selectable, and when used as a TSR utility, it can take up as little as 6K of memory, with the rest swapped out to disk, EMS, or ramdisk. The program also comes bundled with a shareware font downloader and three shareware landscape fonts as a bonus for LaserJet or DeskJet owners. If you use a computer for correspondence, especially if you laser print your output, this will save you typing or handwriting addresses on an awful lot of envelopes. (IBM)

•**Hard At Work** ($3 or a 5 1/4" DSDD Disk in a sturdy mailer with 65¢ postage from RK West Consulting, PO Box 8059, Mission Hills, CA 91346): The purpose of this program is simple: it makes your computer look busy even when you're not. It has eight different screens, all of which are loaded with color and appear to be doing something, from virus checking to loading a spreadsheet. Some of them (like the one warning of an overheated system) are just silly, others are realistic. The usual means of stopping programs are locked out, too, so the boss can't figure out what you're doing. I only noted two faults: the program is not able to cope with the 43-line EGA mode (taking up only the top half of the screen, and looking a good deal less impressive) and one of the routines (the system check) completely locks up my computer, for what reason I am not sure. But as a bit of silliness for the price of a return mailer, it's fun. (IBM)

HYPERSTATIC ($5 from PhotoStatic, 911 North Dodge Street, Iowa City, Iowa 52245): Hypercard stacks for the Mac. There's 6 stacks, the main emphasis being a comprehensive list of "alternative contacts" (i.e. many of you freaks reading this) made by PhotoStatic since 1983. Essentially you have index cards w/names, addresses, publications, and frequently brief descriptions of the contact's interests. This is intended to be a networking tool, obsolete only at the end of the present era. (Mac, 773k)(Reviewed by PJ Bellomo)

•**LANDSCAPER** ($28 from Inverted-A, Inc., 401 Forrest Hill, Grand Prairie, TX 75051): In order to understand this utility, you need to know the difference between portrait and landscape fonts. Portrait fonts run across the page, like the words in this text. Landscape fonts run up the page, rotated at a 90-degree angle to this. What LANDSCAPER does is take any portrait font for a LaserJet printer and produce the equivalent landscape font. If you have a bunch of soft fonts you bought from some vendor, this can be incredibly useful. If you have a font generator (as I do) that allows you to make your own landscape fonts, it seems less useful—except that running an existing font through LANDSCAPER is a whole lot faster than generating a new font. The program works, the fonts work, if you do a lot of printing in landscape mode you could find this a lot of help. (IBM)

•**MagBase** ($10 from Rad Delaroderie, PO Box 1991, Columbus, GA 31902-1991; evaluation version in IBMAPP section on Compuserve): This is a stripped down database designed exclusively for holding information on magazine articles. Each record in the database contains info on the magazine itself (including year, volume, title and so on) and on the article (authors, a list of key words, and a summary field). The field sizes are fixed so the whole record fits on one screen. Functions are provided to add, delete, modify and list records, with a simple "point and shoot" interface and lots of colored text and small beeps (which cannot be turned off; likewise, text colors are not user-determined). The software seems bombproof; even silly input is handled gracefully. About the only feature I consider a bug is in the search function; searching by author is case-sensitive, a bit of a nuisance. And of course if your ideas about what info to store don't match those of the program's authors, tough. But as an off-the-shelf single-purpose database, it works fine. (IBM)

•**MAILLIST** ($5 from R.K. West Consulting, PO Box 8059, Mission Hills, CA 91346; registration is $29) is a mailing list manager for Word Perfect users, designed to keep track of a mailing list and make it available in standard Word Perfect mail merge format. It's based on Clipper (a dBase competitor/extension) and source code is avaiable to registered users. If you're an experienced Word Perfect user, preferably with some Clipper knowledge as well, please contact me about writing a more complete review for this package. (IBM)

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☐ **GALAXY(765)**
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☐ **ZOOM RACKS (1287, 1288)**
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☐ **FLU-SHOT+ (1119)**
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☐ **OPINION MASTER SURVEY SYSTEM (1035, 1036)**
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☐ **EZ-FORMS LITE (1202)**
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☐ **FAMILY TREE (1535)**
This program provides a convenient means of collecting and compiling genealogical and biographical information.

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•**Minister Database** ($6 from PC-SIG, 1030-D E. Duane Ave., Sunnyvale, CA 94086; author's registration is $30): This is a single-purpose program: it develops a schedule for masses at a Catholic or other large church. The user interface is friendly and simple, but not flexible; you couldn't use it, for example, to schedule shift work at a pork-packing factory. Within its own area, though, it works perfectly, taking into account people's levels of skill and preferences for days to serve and family commitments, allowing vacations, and coming up with as schedule in ASCII form that you can drop right into your church bulletin. (IBM)

•**Namegram** ($25 from Support Group, Inc., PO Box 130, McHenry, MD 21541): This is a delightful little program for generating anagrams from any name or phrase. It comes with a complete manual on disk, which is hardly needed, since the menu is so clear. You put in a name, the computer figures out which words can be made from it, and you're off. You can either select from the list yourself, ask the computer to generate anagrams automatically, or pick a few words and see what can be done with the rest of the letters. "Factsheet" was almost instantly transformed into "Fetch eats", among 85 possibilities. A more extensive example, "Mike Gunderloy" yielded "Run my old geek", "I no urged my elk", " Go irk me nudely", "Rum in Ye Old keg", "Young deer milk", "My god, elk urine!", "Kremlin doe guy", and "Modern-like guy"—to name a few of the 18,016 possibilities the program found. Minor niceties abound here: support for screen modes up to the eyestraining 132x43; mouse support; a compressed dictionary that includes names, slang and even swear words; and cute sound effects, to name a few. And try as I might, I couldn't get the program to crash either. This is a winner. (IBM)

PBW #8 ($2 from Richard Freeman): A zine published via 3.5" computer floppy. This one's been coming in MacWrite, but I've been translating the goodies into MSW 4.0. The editor encourages readers to reproduce this at will, but note that individual authors retain copyrights.

The selection remains wide and interesting, not to mention absolutely exhausting. More blue reviews by Robbin, as well as excerpts from a diary, countless poems, chapters from longer works, and Huck's personal rap-up of the LA scene. Oberc contributes 4 poems, each creating its own intense and unusual situation. Ann Guthrie gushes out some experiences of motherhood in striking eloquence. Did I mention that this was exhausting? (Mac, 479k)(Reviewed by PJ Bellomo)

•**Billy Peoples** (PO Box 1060, San Mateo, FL 32187) sent a sampling of computer art which spans the range from Don Martin to Degas. The disc is copy protected, but the original is very simple to run. The images appear on the screen and artfully segue through to the end and then automatically start again from the beginning. The only way I could find to terminate the program was to reboot the system. There may be a better way to stop it but as there were no instructions included I did not discover what it is. The letter Billy sent mentions something about soundtracks, but if there was sound on the disk I ran I did not discover how to get it to work,

Instructions would greatly improve this offering to the average computer user, but that doesn't seem to be who Billy is gearing this towards. This disc, as well as many others such as "Twilight Zone", "Japanese Art" and "Australia" are available only for trade, So if you have some computer art you've done, send it to Billy H. People, PO Box 1060, San Mateo, FL 32187. He'll send you a sample disc and a list of other available selections and he might even make your work into a slideshow. (Amiga)(Guest review by Alyce Wittenstein)

•**Rune-Caster** ($6 from PC-SIG, 1030-D E. Duane Ave., Sunnyvale, CA 94086; authors' registration is $10): A simple program which casts runes as an oracle. The program will throw either one or three runes, and then put the result on the screen with a short textual interpretation. Help screens include a small bit of rune history and suggestions for more reading. Requires Hercules monochrome graphics (though the Hercules driver on my EGA card handled it just fine). (IBM)

•**Survey System** ($12 from PC-SIG, 1030-D E. Duane Ave., Sunnyvale, CA 94086; authors' registration is $45): This is a tool for constructing attitude surveys and compiling a database of the results. It's fairly limited in questions: you get three questions to ask what pigeonhole (age, sex, etc.) the respondent fits in. After that, it's a matter of giving statements and asking for a response from "Agree Strongly" to "Disagree strongly". The system will print out questionnaires or display a form on the screen so that phone data, for example, can be typed directly in by the survey-taker. After all the surveys are in, a variety of reports can be produced. Apart from the limited question format, it's a fairly well-done system with just a few quirks (pull-down menus that you can't get out of with a right arrow key to go to the next menu, imperfect restoration of default screen colors on exit)—I presume these are the result of using FOXPRO as the compiler for the system. But the inability to do detailed surveys using a variety of question formats is a severe drawback for many applications. (IBM)

•**SWAPDOS** ($25 from Innovative Data Concepts, 1657 The Fairways #101, Jenkintown, PA 19046): I can give this one the highest possible testimonial: it works and I use it every day. Now for the explanation, which is a bit more technical. This is a program which will take one DOS application and stuff it out of the way when you shell out to another DOS application. For example, I can execute another program from within the word processor I'm using. Normally when I do this I have only about 180K of memory free. Using SWAPDOS, I have more like 390K free, and so can run much larger programs. Believe me, this is a lifesaver. SWAPDOS will put the suspended application in EMS memory (hardware or software driven), Extended memory (providing you have HIMEM.SYS or another XMS driver), or on disk (I drop it on an extended memory ramdisk, myself). It can also mark chunks of associated programs to unload at one time, and keep track of multiple marks. The program is smart enough to avoid some ways to bomb out, and so far I have had no problem using it—and with 2 megabytes of memory in this computer, I've done some pretty crazy things. As icing on the cake, the manual turned me on the 4DOS, another shareware program which I may review next time around. I also hope to have SWAPDOS available on the FF BBS by the time you read this. Requires DOS 3 or higher and someplace to put your application; other than that it's been compatible with everything I've thrown at it. (IBM)

•**Wisdom of the Ages** ($24 from PC-SIG, 1030-D E. Duane Ave., Sunnyvale, CA 94086; authors' registration is $54): This is essentially an electronic dictionary of quotations, some 6500 of them spread across four floppy disks. It comes with a search engine which can

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quickly locate them by any topic the program knows about—all of which are weighty things like Separation, Love, Pride, Time or The Eternal. It includes a set of filters to limit the results to (for example) short quotes or modern quotes. The registered version adds further indexing and print functions. There's a lot here, and the colorful screen display works flawlessly. (IBM)

•**Workbase** ($5 from R.K. West Consulting, PO Box 8059, Mission Hills, CA 91346; author's registration is $49): This is a database development environment, using dBase-like and Clipper-like commands. It's interactive, and features on-line help. I messed around with it a bit, and got it to do a few things, and didn't crash my system, which is more than I can say about some software. Unfortunately I never did have a good reason to learn dBase, so I can't evaluate the package further. Any readers want to give it a shot? (IBM)

IMPORTANT EVENTS

•*Does anyone have any information on this year's Rainbow gathering?*

•**Sacred Art of the SubGenius** is the title of an art exhibit running from January 10 through April 10, 1990 at Psychedelic Solution Gallery (33 W. 8th St., 2nd Floor, New York, NY 10011). Call 212-529-2462 for more details; the gallery is open Wednesday through Sunday, noon to 8 PM.

•**Earth Day** is April 22nd, and in case you've been napping, this year it's #20. If you haven't got a clue as to what's going on, phone your local environmental group or food co-op and ask. Also note that Monday April 23rd has been claimed by some radical groups as an extension of Earth Day to disrupt capitalist institutions such as the New York Stock Exchange.

•The annual **Kenneth Patchen Festival** will be April 27-29 at the Trumbull Art Gallery, 720 Mahoning Ave. NW, Warren, OH 44482; phone (216)-395-4876. Bern Porter is among the participants this year. Small Press folks are invited to display at free tables during the event; contact Dave McClintock or C.M. James for more details.

•**DECALcoMANIA**, the club for collectors of radio tapes and promotions, is planning a convention in Southern California in April or May 1990. For more information send an SASE to Dale L. Andrus, 1425 Cherry Ave. #155, Beaumont, CA 92223.

•**The International Fanzine Exposition** is being held in May in Brazil. They're asking for donations of zines, and promise to send programs to those who respond. The address is Edson Vulcanis, Rua Padre Dehon, 3033, 81500 - Curitiba - PR - BRAZIL.

•**CORFLU** 7 is the convention for science fiction fanzine fans, being held in New York City on May 4-6, 1990. Registration is $35 for an attending membership or $5 for a supporting membership, from Lise Eisenberg, 99 Joralemon St. #6D, Brooklyn, NY 11201, who is also the person to write for more information. I'll be there, assuming my schedule allows it. So far this looks pretty definite.

•**A Conference on Workers' Self-Organization: Building a New Labor Movement** will be held in Minneapolis May 4-6, 1990. Registration is $20; for more information write WD Press, PO Box 24115, St. Louis, MO 63130 or call (612)-823-2593.

•**The Reanimation Conference** is May 4-6, 1990, in Ontario, California. It'll draw together a lot of the most active people in cryonics and nanotechnology to discuss the prospects for essentially eternal life. Registration is $15. Contact The Reanimation Foundation, 16280 Whispering Spur, Riverside, CA 92504; (800)-284-8811.

•The **Thelemic Arts Center** is sponsoring a number of magickal and transformational workshops this spring, including Philip H. Farber's "Introduction to Magick" on May 6 in Nyack, NY. For more information write to the TAC at PO Box 373, Accord, NY 12404.

•The second **Melbourne Original Music Festival** will take place in Melbourne, Florida on Sunday, May 6, 1990. For more information contact Melbourne Original Musicians at PO Box 2611, Melbourne, FL 32902-2611; (407)-768-1529.

•**The North American Support-In** will take place May 11-15, 1990. This is a national action, centered in New York City, of opposition to the psychiatric establishment and a promotion of alternatives. The East Coast contact is Janet Foner, 920 Brandt Ave., New Cumberland, PA 17070, (717)-774-6465; on the West Coast contact David Oaks, PO Box 11284, Eugene, OR 97440, (503)-341-0100.

•**Ending Men's Violence: Pathways to a Gender-Just World** is the theme of the 15th Annual conference of the National Organization for Changing Men, to be held May 31 to June 3, 1990 at Oglethorpe University in Atlanta. For more information write Men Stopping Violence, 1020 Dekalb Ave. #25, Atlanta, GA 30307, or call (404)-688-1376.

•**The Great San Francisco Crystal Fair** will be held at Fort Mason Center, June 2-3, 1990. Admission is $4; for more information, call (415)-383-7837.

•**National Flag Desecration Day** has been announced for June 15 (the day after Flag Day). This is a date to protest recent laws making this a crime, called by the National Flag Desecration Network. For more information send a large SASE to Angus T. McWhorter, 1010 Thoreau Ct., St. Louis, MO 63146; please do not mention flags or the Network on the envelope.

•**The International Conference on Shamanic Journeying and Healing** will be held June 21-24, 1990 in Niagara Falls, Canada. For more information write Crystal Vision Retreats, 65 Metcalfe #2, Toronto, ONT, M4X 1R9, CANADA or call (416)-927-1817.

•**CONCEPT** is a musician's festival held in Canada the week of July 1-7. For more information, contact Peter Riden, 4322 Cleroux, Chomeday, laval, Montreal, H7T 2E3, CANADA.

•The Ninth Annual **Fourth World Assembly**, a conference for those looking for local level solutions to planetary problems, will be July 11-15, 1990, in the Dallas area. For details contact Realistic Living, PO Box 140826, Dallas, TX 75214.

•**The 1990 International Tesla Symposium** will be held at the Hilton in Colorado Springs from July 26-29, 1990. For more information contact the International Tesla Society at 330-A W. Uintah St. #215, Colorado Springs, CO 80905-1095.

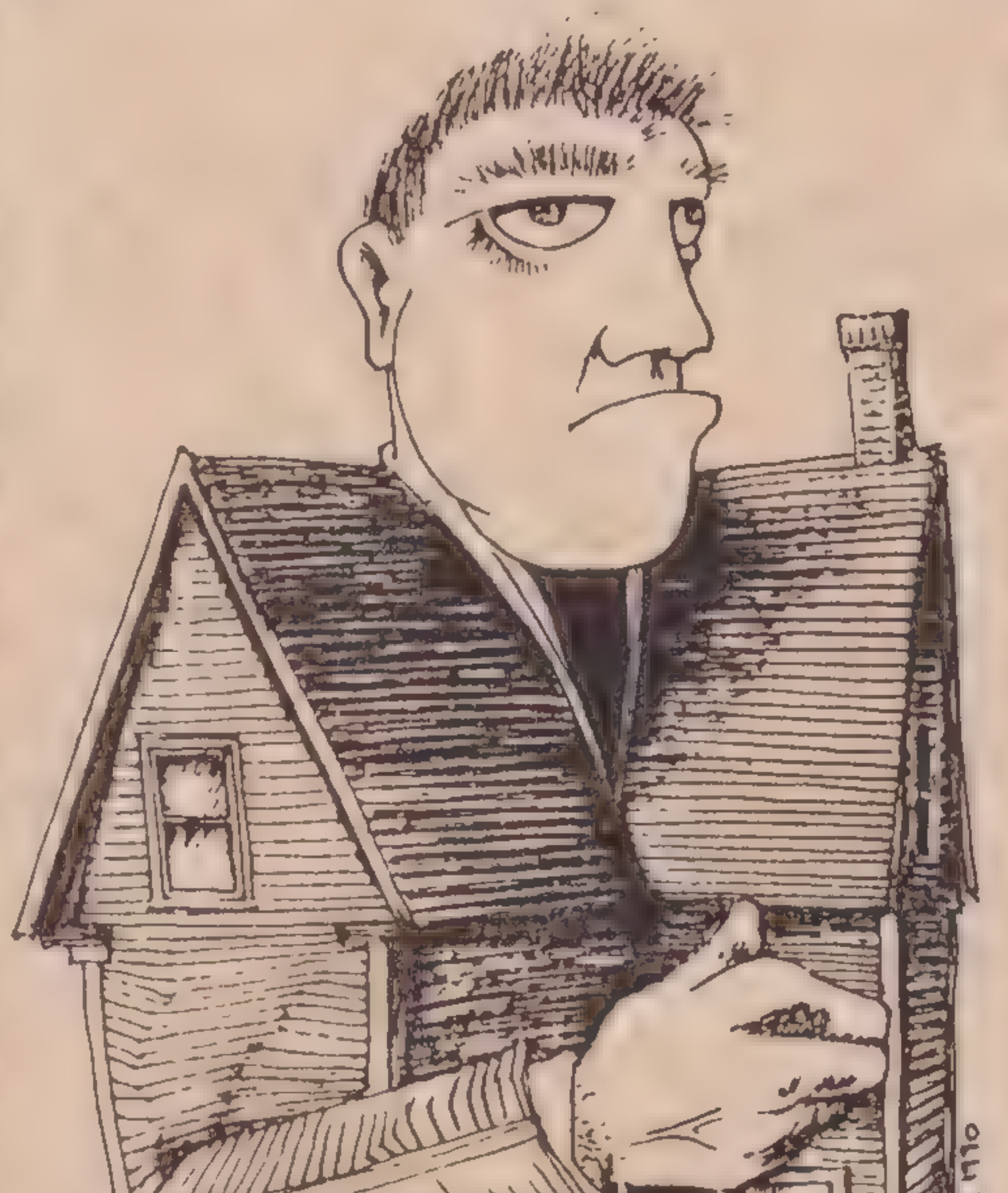
•**A Conference on Biostasis & Reentry** is being held at Asilomar (a conference center in California) August 24-26, 1990. This will include both technical sessions and political discussions for advocates of cryonics. Prices for the weekend start at $135. Contact Lifepact, PO Box 18698, South Lake Tahoe, CA 95706; (916)-577-4746 for more information.

•A national **Lesbian Conference** will take place April 24-28, 1991. The national planning office may be reached at PO Box 3057, Albany, NY 12203 or call (518)-463-1051; the conference itself will take place in Atlanta.

•If you're interested in a pagan events, you should subscribe to Larry Cornett's calendar of festivals, gatherings, and so on. $4 per year from 9527 Blake Ln. #102, Fairfax, VA 22031.

MAIL ART

•**73F1** (103 Wheeler Ave., Toronto, ONT, M4L 3V3) wants you to design a booklet describing a new "religion/cult/sect/commune", with symbol included, a brief description, and a place of worship. Send 37 copies and get a big packet of similar propaganda back.



•**Torquil Anderson** (51 Leamington Terrace, Edinburgh, EH10 4JS, SCOTLAND) is collecting works in any medium, any size n the subject of "beards" and promises "A sample of hair to all". No deadline for this show.

•**August** (PO Box 300, Mt. Bethel, PA 18343) is interested in exchanging works of art through the mail "with the stress on absurdity".

•**Babel** is the theme for a show with the deadline of May 15. No size restriction, no return, will be displayed in a gallery. Send works to Babel, 605 13th, Knoxville, TN 37916.

•**Vittore Baroni** (Via C.Battisti 339/341, 55049 Viareggio, ITALY) is collecting material for a long-awaited book on the international mail art network.

•**BRAIN CELL** (Ryosuke Cohen, 3-76-1-A-613, Yagumokitacho, Moriguchi City, Osaka 570, Japan) is a frequent and colorful broadside of rubber stampings from around the world. To get involved, simply send your own original rubber stamp or 150 stickers directlt to Ryosuke. He mails every 8-10 days, so something should get back to you fairly quickly.

•**Wayne Branch** (11842 N. 30th Pl., Phoenix, AZ 85028) does handmade block prints of his own design, which he'll swap for zines or who knows what else.

•**E3** is a weekly mail art magazine in A6 (roughly minicomic) size put out by K. Takeishi (Satsukiso, 3-11-17, Amanuma, Suginamiku, Tokyo, 167, JAPAN). Naturally, they're always interested in receiving more submissions for upcoming issues.

•**FaGaGaGa** (PO Box 1382, Youngstown, OH 44501) sends out frequent postcards of colorful mail art, and is also collecting stuff for a show on "Jazz Past/Future".

•**Gus Franza** (254 River Dr., Moriches, NY 11955) recommends collage as a way to fight back against media manipulation, and sent samples of some things he's done with the NY Times. He'd probably be up to swapping his collages for yours.

•**Bryan Goldberg** (PO Box 300, Mt., Bethel, PA 18343) writes that he is "seeking art and stories anything on anyone who remembers the 70's form a little kids point of view, seeing all this long hair bell bottoms and wooden ankhs".

•**GM Artists** (PO Box 300006, Minneapolis, MN 55403) is a collective of gay artists inviting other gay artists to participate in quarterly mail art shows. No fees, no juries, no rejections, with documentation to all the artists.

•**Images of Global Peace** (SASSU Mail Art, Sangamon State University, Student Life, E-15, Springfield, IL 62794-9243) is a traveling mail art show which will open April 30. Open size and media, documentation provided.

•**JUNK MAIL**—the sending of envelopes full of flotsam from society, whether they be ads, photos, trash, ticket stubs, bits of books, cloth patches, or whatnot—is getting increasingly popular. Here's a list of people who are into swapping this sort of thing:

Alizarin, PO Box 127, Wickatunk, NJ 07765.

August, PO Box 300, Mt. Bethel, PA 18343.(Most recently with a rhinestone-coated envelope)

Alexander T. Daniels, 1544 Piedmont Rd. Box 58, Atlanta, GA 30324—his "Rabbit Sheet" is a penpal sheet that comes stuffed with goodies, available for some stamps and "a friendly long letter".

Richard DeVaney, PSC #3798, Loring AFB, ME 04751.

Graham Trievel, Box 481, Rte. 112, Lionville, PA 19353, who calls his selections **ENVELOPE O'FUN**. Graham will also swap a **BOX O'FUN** with anyone who sends him a box full of cool stuff.

•**Gene Kuhn** (1103 E. St. Germain, St. Cloud, MN 56304) is into swapping art through the mail.

•I got another envelope full of goodies from **Ruggero Maggi** (C.so Sempione 67, 20149 Milano, ITALY). He seems to be getting more heavily into collage and multi-colored rubber stamping these days, though the election campaign of the pig Gina still pops up in his stuff.

•**Cynde Moya** (21540 Dome Tr., Topanga, CA 90290) will send "an ugly computer photo" made into a postcard to anyone who asks.

•**David Ross** (350A Lafayette St. #3C, Metuchen, NJ 08840) has a variety of mail art projects in progress, including a theme show on "Tesla & the Pigeons" and 4EG, a guitar project for which participants are invited to send a score.

•**E.Z. Smith** (2306 N. Ferris, Fresno, CA 93704) sent a couple of pieces of "Tasteless Mail Art": photos of cartoon characters behind barbed wire with tattoos on their arms, made into postcards which were then stamped with German stamps and postmarked Auschwitz. Well, he did say it was tasteless...

•**SWIMSUIT, THE POSTCARD** is available from Christopher B. Margin, Rt. 1 Box 373, Charlottesville, VA 22901-9605 for 25¢. It features a rather bored looking gal in a swimsuit ona beach, or at least the one sent me did—since it's an original color photo, I doubt they're all the same.

•**The Tab** is the latest mail art piece from The Madman of San Anselmo (1503A San Anselmo Ave., San Anselmo, CA 94960). It features a small "Guest Check" filled out with worldly items. SASE for your own copy.

•**Michael Voodoo** (PO Box 12461, Lake Park, FL 33403) continues to send collage posters, stickers, decorated envelopes and business cards my way at the slightest provocation.

•**What Changes?** is the theme of a mail art show being prepared by O. Jason, 27 Whitmore St., Shelton, Stoke-On-Trent, ST1 4JS, ENGLAND. Any size, any media, documentation to all. Deadline is June 10, 1990. "Oh, and please write CHANGE on your envelopes; they will not be opened until the start of the show."

OTHER NEWS

•**!NKSLINGERS** is compiling a directory of mail art and pen pal groups and magazines. For a listing questionnaire, send an SASE to Rhonda-Lisa Wilk, 2281-K Diamond Hill Rd., Woonsocket, RI 02895.

•**The 1990 Nature Calendar** comes from Nib Geebles, 601 W. 160th St. #6D, New York, NY 10032 for $5.95. It includes a package of dirt on the cover, and inside a variety of disturbing drawings and events. For example, August features a picture of "We try to instill a sense of right and wrong" with a grinning demon face and an innocent child; the 13th of that month is marked "Carry a few gallons of gasoline into a bank (you decide the rest)".

•**The Aggressive Christianity Mission Training Corps** (Free Love Ministries, PO Box 41296, Reno, NV 89504) is one of the most hilarious purveyors of far-out Christian literature around. For the asking they'll send you some of their pamphlets on subjects like music and marijuana, complete with easy to use prayers to free you from these traps of the devil.

•**Aleister Crowley Last Ritual of the Devil Child** is the title of a limited edition Jeff Gaither poster available from Possessed Image (642 E. 52nd St., Indianapolis, IN 46205). It comes on heavy gray 11x17 card stock, signed and numbered, and features a rather nasty looking character being conjured from a pentagram. You can get a copy for $8 postpaid.

•**The American Peace Test** is organizing a phone blockade of the Nevada Test Site, to take place after each nuclear test. They have a pamphlet on this topic together with a list of phone numbers to tie up (the main one is 702-295-1000) available for 25¢ & an SASE, from the Stop Testing Affinity Group, c/o American Peace Test, PO Box 26725, Las Vegas, NV 89126. They can also tie you into a phone tree so you'll be notified of tests as they happen.

•**America West Distributors** (6992 El Camino Real #104-335, Carlsbad, CA 92009) have out a catalog which says in part "We have, so far published TEN journals (more to come) which were TRANSMITTED directly from Fourth Dimensional Extraterrestrials who call themselves "Space Brothers" and who have been closely monitoring OUR activities on Earth." They reveal the truth about AIDS, Jesus Christ, Armageddon, financial survival and more in these journals, which are ten bucks a pop.

•**Antero Alli** has a new Katalog of transformational books, tapes and services out, which you can get for a 25¢ stamp from PO Box 45758, Seattle, WA 98145.

•**The Anti-Catholic League** may be contacted at 18620 McCraken Rd., Maple Heights, OH 44137, if you'd like to see some of their ravings about the Catholic-Communist plot for world domination.

•**Archives Szukalski** are the only source I know of for posters and postcards of the strange and disturbing drawins of Stanislav Szukalski. Try sending an SASE for some of their catalog.

•**Art/Line** (Frank Thomson, 17 Pine Dale Rd., Asheville, NC 28805) is collecting editions of 100 original works on the theme "Art About a Guy Named Art". Send an SASE for contributors' guidelines.

•**Bible Believers' Evangelistic Association** (Rt. 3 Box 92, Sherman, TX 75090) sells the famous "Rapture" postcards, plus all manner of other maps and charts to warn people of the coming Day of Judgment. You can even get the Rapture picture on a placement so your kids can see it every night at dinner. No price on the catalog; try a buck or phone 800-527-2131 to talk to them.

•**Black Rose** (PO Box 2684, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130) sponsors a series of anarchist lectures and workshops in the Boston area. Send an SASE for more information.

•**Brian Blight** (2024 Roseland, Flint, MI 48506) is always willing to swap photos, two for two, any subject, with anyone.

•**Mykel Board** has put together a catalog of Japanese comics and magazines that he'll be happy to ship you while he's living over there. You can get a copy of the catalog for $1 from him at #301 Hoyconfolt Sobudai, 3-4774-153 Sobudai, Zama-Shi, Kanagawa 228, JAPAN.

•**BORROWED PERCEPTION** is a new zine being started by Colin Sicc (formerly of **TRIAL SIZE** and he's looking for poetry, prose, art and photography for it. You can write him at KXLU, attn: Colin Sicc, 7101 W. 80th, Los Angeles, CA 90045.

•**Gary Brostek** (3730 N. Oracle Rd. #36, Tucson, AZ 85705) sent me a copy of a letter to President Bush, taking up the other side in the war on drugs. It's pretty borderline in spots, near incoherent as Gary tries to cram his whole worldview into three pages. You can get a copy for 75¢.

•**Burning Press** (PO Box 18817, Cleveland Heights, OH 44118) is out with their own response to the flagburning laws, a Bill of Rights suitably annotated and altered to make the issues clear. Send a buck and I'm sure you'll get something back.

•**Frank Carpenito** (33010 SE 99th, Snoqualmie, WA 98065) has embroidered anarchy and punk patches for sale. Send a stamp for more info.

•**The Cartoon Chain Letter** can be yours by sending a 25¢ stamp to PO Box 1077, Newnan, GA 30264. Ordinarily I toss chain letters, but this one doesn't ask you to do anything but pass it on, so that the cartoon characters can fulfill their goal of saying "Hi" to everyone in America.

•**The Castle of 1990** is the title of Pilliard Dickle's great 1990 wall calendar. It's a drawing of a fantasy world, full of hot air balloons and dandelion trees and colorful costumes and curious characters, with the months engraved on the castle walls. On the back is an explanation of the story behind the picture. I expect this would delight children—hell, it delights me, and is going up on my wall posthaste. Normal price for the 18"x25" laminated calendar is $12 plus $2.40 shipping, but if you mention **FACTSHEET FIVE** you can get a copy for only $5 postpaid—and you should. Write to Pilliard Dickle, PO Box 1077, Newnan, GA 30264; ask for a free catalog if you want to see for yourself.

•**CELTIC FRINGE** is delaying publication of its next issue until May, but is still in business.

•**CMA** is the Center for Media Arts at Allapattah Middle School in Miami, and they put out a nifty 1990 calendar featuring a variety of collaged, processed, photographed and miscellaneous artwork, plus custom type designs. It really looks sharp, and although they're not for sale you can get one by sending "something neat" in exchange and a $1.45 SASE to Rian Fike, AFM, 18 NW 100 St., Miami, FL 33150.

•**Crazy Cloud's Conspiratory Calendar 1990** ($7 from Cloud 247, PO Box 1132, eastsound, Orcas Island, WA 98245) is one of the cooler small-press calendars I got this year, with all sorts of countercultural annotations on its days and low-fi photos of animals and protestors. A real hippie feel infuses this one, but it's been extensively updated as well.

•**The Crusade to Abolish Traffic Tickets** is still trying to interest people in destroying the entire Unconstitutional traffic ticket system. For $5 you can get a piece of the action, or for an SASE more information, from PO Box 15133, Honolulu, HI 96830. In response to my last mention, proprietor Clarence Shak writes "Please note that this is *not* a crusade to abolish stop signs and red lights, The proposal is to give people the freedom of choice as to when to obey those signs, which, in effect, would make those signs equivalent to yield-right-of-way signs!"

•**Deep Living Poetry Postcards** come from Free Beginning Press, 41 Beryl St., Roslindale, MA 02131. Each one features a single poem, plus a computer-graphic illustration, on heavy cardstock. No price handy, but a buck should land you a couple of samples.

•**The ERA** (c/o Carin Luhrs, PO Box 713, Canton, CT 06019) is looking for Edward Gorey styled art and "anguishing, intellectual beatnik literature and poetry".

•**Esoterica Castle** (Clifton Associates, 349 E. Cooke Rd., Columbus, OH 43214-2801) sells all manner of stuff through the mail: revenge and self-printing books, flash paper, porno videos, prints and joke condoms are a few of their products. $1 should get you a catalog.

•**Europe Through the Back Door** (120 4th Ave. N, Edmonds, WA 98020) is an outfit that specializes in low-cost, intimate European travel—everything from books to moneybelts to full tours with experienced guides. You can get on their mailing list just for asking.

•**FILM THREAT** (PO Box 951, Royal Oak, MI 48068) has released two different 1990 calendars, each about the size of a paperback book. The "Mass Murderer" one is moderately sicker, with sketches of a dozen famous killers and notes as to deadly days in history. The "Dead Celebrities" version has everyone from rock stars to fat directors, and a list of death dates for famous folks. $3.95 for one or $5.95 for both.

•**FNORD** (Paul Leonard, PO Box 993, St. Charles, IL 61074) is refocusing on artwork, and is looking for artists who could provide 50 originals for inclusion in future issues.

•**Freedom Now** is a group trying to encourage enough Libertarians to move to Fort Collins to make an impact on the community's ideology. For $1 & SASE you can get an introductory packet, or for $6 a full spectrum of information about the project and the area. Write to Mary Margaret, 1317 Lakewood Dr., Fort Collins, CO 805231.

•**Greyfox Enterprises** (907 Iroquois Ct., Harrisburg, PA 17109) has a stock of stuff they barter and make available for donations, all to help the Florida Tribe of Eastern Creek Indians. These range from sweetgrass braids to used cameras to gem cabachons. Send an SASE for the current list.

•**Michelle Griesbauer** (1819 Maxwell Ave., Baltimore, MD 21222-2914) is collecting names and addresses for the following fan clubs: Britny Fox, Jailhouse, White Lion, Vixen, Joan Jett, and Enuff Z'Nuff. Send an SASE for her questionnaire.

•**James Hollis** (798 3rd Ave., Troy, NY 12182) sent me a pile of photocopied collages which are somewhere in the netherland between art and politics. They feature images of prejudice, violence and religion juxtaposed in such a way as to indict them for senselessnes.

•**THE HOSPITALITY EXCHANGE** is a group of folks who agree to let other group members stay when traveling. Membership is $15 per year, and includes a listing and a couple of directories during the year. I think it's a great idea. You can join by sending a check to Joy-Lily at 116 Coleridge St., San Francisco, CA 94110.

•**The IFDMC** is a documentation and networking group centered on new music. They produce a couple of radio shows, put out a zine, and set up fanzine exhibits, among other activities. You can contact them c/o Mauro Missana, Via Umberto 1, 146, 33034 Fagagna (Udine), ITALY.

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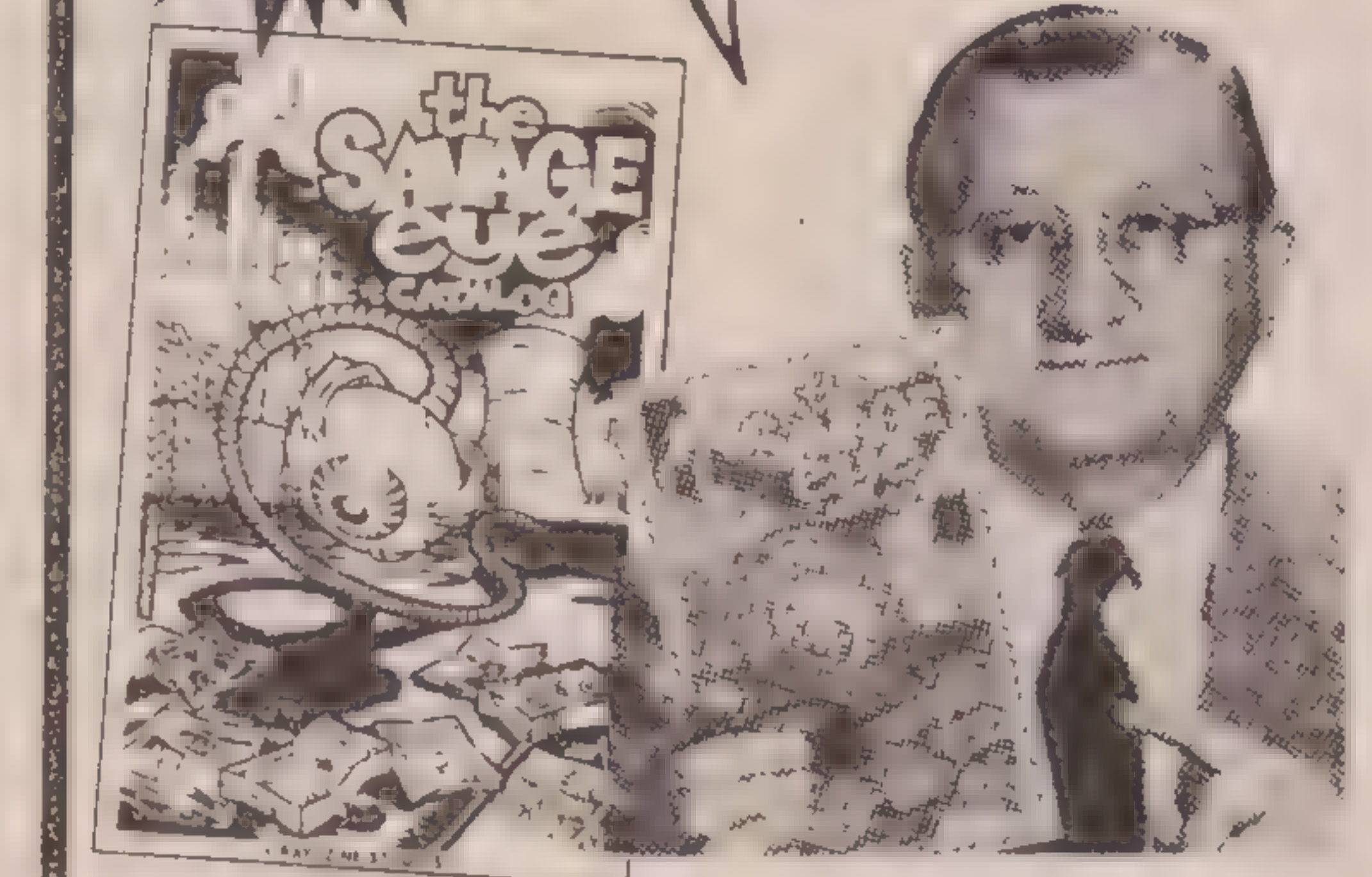
THE SAVAGE EYE CATALOG!



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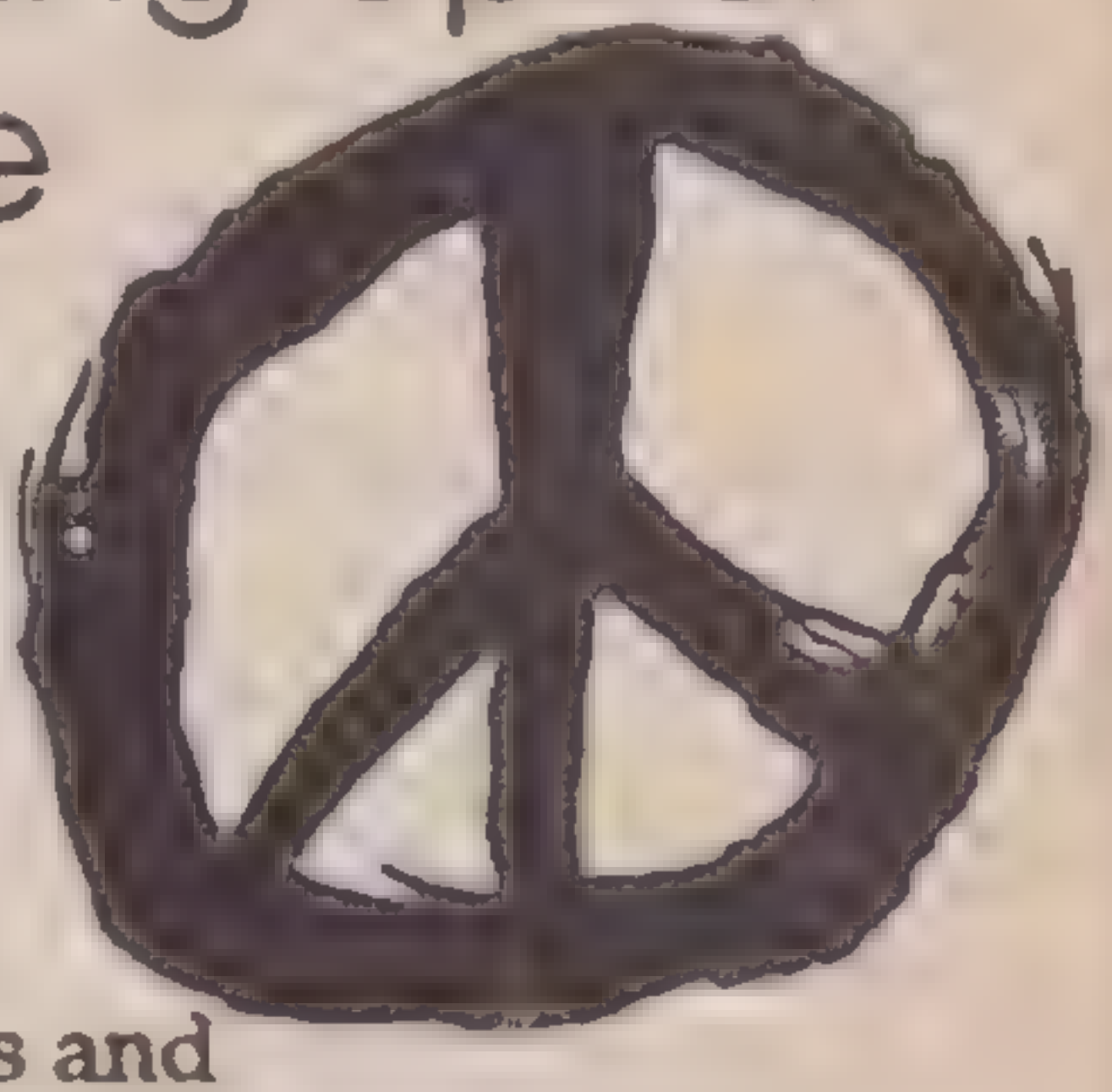


Why have some people risked their jobs, their homes, their families and even prison to take a stand for peace? This is *your* chance to find out. The Standing Up for Peace Contest invites you to talk face to face with someone who has refused to fight in war, pay taxes for war, or build weapons for war, and then to express what you think and feel about what you heard through writing, art or music.

The contest is open to young people ages 15-23. The deadline for entries is May 1, 1990.

To enter, send for the Standing Up for Peace Contest booklet, Fellowship of Reconciliation, Box 271, Nyack, NY 10960 (914) 358-4601.

$500 PRIZES $100

=**The Intergalactic House of Fruitcakes** (PO Box 235, Williamstown, MA 02167-0235) continues to send me tracts, chain collages, secret teachings, and public rants about the Otisian faith and its practice. Send a buck or five and see what happens to you.

•**Karl Johanson** (4219 Carey Rd., Victoria, BC, V8Z 4G5, CANADA) has a new full-page sticker, showing Bugs Bunny speaking to a Vulcan: "Eh! What's up SPOCK?". You can get the sticker for $2.50 or you can get the design screened on a t-shirt for $12.50.

•**KTD Dharma Goods** (315 Marion Ave., Big Rapids, MI 49307) "is a non-profit business dedicated to raising funds for the *Karma Triyana Dharmachakkra* monastery and retreat center". A donation of about $2 would be appropriate for their colorful catalog of shrine images, meditation cushions, books and other objects.

•The new **Kurluk Candle Shop** catalog is out, with incenses, holy oil, candles, herbs and other magical supplies for sale by mail. Send to PO Box 6186, Baltimore, MD 21231 for your copy.

•**The Lake Tahoe Polio Network** (PO Box 10005, South Lake Tahoe, CA 95731) sells 1/25 scale antique vehicle banks as a fundraiser. To get their current catalog, send an SASE.

•**The Last Church of the Apocalypse** (PO Box 362, Patchogue, NY 11772) is promising to guide people through the end times if they miss the savior of their choice. So far I've just seen a flyer, but they look like strange and possibly scary people.

•**Libertarian Microfiche Publishing** (c/o John Zube, 7 Oxley St., Berrima, NSW 2577, AUSTRALIA) has got more Libertarian material available than any other publisher, and will be happy to explain the benefits of microfiche to anyone who will listen. Send a few IRCs for some introductory pages and see where you end up.

•**LUNO** is the Learning Unlimited Network of Oregon, anchored by Gene Lehman (31960 SE Chin St., Boring, OR 97009). Lately Gene has been concentrating on wide questions of education and survival, ranging from his own continued fascination with phonics to the question of what sort of educational system society deserves. Send a donation and join in.

•**Mail for Tots** (25 New Chardon St., PO Box 8699, Boston, MA 02114) is a group that links up terminally ill children and adults with people willing to write them letters and cards. Send a donation to get on their list.

•**Mark Margoian** (PO Box 213, Waukegan, IL 60079), "God's True Prophet For The End Of The World", continues to bombard me with nutbar theology, vile anti-semitism, and racist crap. Probably he'll do the same to you if you indicate the slightest interest.

•**The neoGnostic Church** sends out occasional strange bits of mail; the most recent is a "Fortean Survey" to see how much hidden knowledge you are privy to. Apparently you can get a copy for 23¢.

•**...of the jungle** is an outfit that sells a variety of rain forest, desert and other rare plants, from chili peppers to San Pedro cactus. Notes on ethnobotanical use sprinkle their catalog, though of course they make no guarantees. They also sell a variety of extracts, powders, dried specimens and so on. A buck or two should land their current catalog.

•**Phoenix** (PO Box 92007, Santa Barbara, CA 93190-2007) sent me an envelope full of alternative political stuff—pictures of Bush captioned "Liar", the Statue of Liberty in a gas mask, Ollie North recruiting posters, that sort of thing, and a note "I am interested in trading for similar concoctions." A later package features colorful anti-political postcards.

•**POSTWAR** (PO Box 21534, Long Beach, CA 90802) surfaced long enough to send me a couple more posters, including "Hate Your Job? QUIT!". Colorful if sometimes baffling. Best bet is probably to send them a trade.

•**PROTOCULTURE ADDICTS** (PO Box 35, Stn. Ahuntsic, Montreal, QC, H3L 3N5, CANADA), the official Robotech fanzine, has released a reprint of their very first issue. You can get a copy for $2.25.

ANARCHIST MAIL ORDER CATALOG. $1 cash/stamps: Redwing Blackbird, Box 2042, Decatur, GA 30031-2042.

•**Redwing Blackbird** (PO Box 2042, Decatur, GA 30030-2042) is a mail-order distribution service that carries a lot of anarchist and other zines at competitive prices. You can get their current catalog for $1 in cash or stamps.

•**Revenge & Guilt** is the title of a postcard series put out by Steve Messina (502 Amsterdam Ave. #16, New York, NY 10024). A lot of them are sort of pointed humor aimed at the Yuppies and other trendies. I really enjoyed the "Roving Bands of Delinquent Proofreaders" and "L.L. Bean J" cards. You can get some for 50¢ each, or $3 per dozen (and there are dozens of different designs), or a catalog for free.

•Pat Hartman from **SALON** (305 W. Magnolia #386, Ft. Collins, CO 80521) has a lot of used postage stamps, US and foreign, which are available free to "anyone with an interesting project in mind."

•**See Hear** is a fabulous music magazine store in New York, and you should really stop by when you're in the city. But if you're anywhere else, you can still take advantage of their mail-order catalog to get lots of hard to find music zines and books. For the catalog, send $1 to 59 E. 7th St., New York, NY 10003.

•**SI** sells survivalist stuff, starting with a year's supply of nitrogen-packed, freeze-dried food for only $695 and progressing to luxuries like 50 hour clear glass emergency candles and military surplus wool pants. You can get their newsletter/catalog for about a buck from PO Box 3796, Gardena, CA 90247.

•**The Sisters of Gustavocoatl** (PO Box 276, Pt. Reyes Station, CA 94956) say "Gustavocoatl was a love god...encouraged women to love one another while loving him, creating a balance of the love chi...open to women who wish to commune with the Avatar [Romeo de la Peneochopulgadas] and find the practice of tribal love appealing to their amorous sensibilities. Photo requested."

•**SPDN** stands for Small Press Distribution Network, which wants publishers to get together to form an alternative distributorship aimed at comics and book stores. For more information, send an SASE to Alfonso DJ Alfonso, PO Box 4037, Miami, FL 33265.

•**The Sporadically Progressive Mutation Survey Company** (PO Box 28111, St. Louis, MO 63119) tries to snap people out of their everyday lives by offering strange questions for their consideration and answers. Send an SASE and see what they can do for you.

•**The Tape Update Awards Calendar Yearbook** is a mini-sized calendar, with important dates in wrestling history and drawings of TU's picks for wrestler of the year, tag team of the year, and so on. $2 will get you a copy from Brian Tramel, 1806 Self Cir. #B, Jonesboro, AR 72401.

•**Graham Trievel** (Box 481, Rte. 113, Lionville, PA 19353) has a small stack of chain letters and will send one of each to anyone who is strange enough to request them. He'd also like to hear from anyone interested in starting a Pennsylvania Chapter of the Pagan Kennedy Fan Club.

•**The Universal Life Church** (601 Third Street, Modesto, CA 95351) will be happy to ordain you as a minister, grant you a doctorate in religion, or send you various literature and credentials for reasonable fees.

•**W.A.W.A.H.** is the Women's Amateur Wrestling Association of Howell (PO Box 18, Howell, NJ 07731). It's sort fo a clearinghouse of photos, books, and videos of females wrestling, boxing, B&D, S&M, and like topics. $1 should get the latest price list.

•**The World's Largest Sculpture** proposes to make all of North America into a colorful map by putting colored material over lights on the night of the new moon this coming November, so it can be photographed from space. For a list of color assignments, write to Milo at PO Box 5237, Balboa Island, CA 92662.

★★★★★

FACTSHEET FIVE PROJECTS

•A couple of things which used to be FF projects are now being handled by other people. The Gemstone File, that medley of modern conspiracy theory running about 90 pages, is available for $9 from Ron Bonds, 419 S. Columbia Dr., Decatur, GA 30030. And Martti Koski's pamphlet **MY LIFE DEPENDS ON YOU**, telling of his own experiences with mind control at the hands of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, may be ordered for $1 from Scott Tinch, 11401 Saga Ln., Knoxville, TN 37931.

•A short list of fanzine and other resources for prisoners is available to any prisoner for the asking. Just drop me a line requesting a copy.

•I now have available for other publishers a list of distributors and stores who would like to see new zines for possible sale. This includes all the folks who sell FF, whether directly or to stores, and with as many details as possible on what they want and what their terms are as I know. Send me an SASE (be sure to tell me what it's for!) and I'll send you a copy.

•The collected **WHY PUBLISH?** book, including most of the words published on this subject in the first 30 issues of FF, as well as new material from Miekal And, Joel Biroco, Stewart Brand and Merritt Clifton, is now available for only $3.50 postpaid. Don't miss this; there were only 500 printed and I probably won't do any more.

•The collected book of Anni Ackner's columns is out at last!. The collection is called **NOBODY LOVES A VISUAL ARTS CRITIC**, and it features all of her writings from FF, as well as four new columns (unavailable elsewhere), an introduction by Elayne Wechsler and graphics by Freddie Baer. 134 pages long, you can get a copy book rate for $4, or first class for $5.50. 75% of the profits are going to Anni, so I'd really like to sell a lot of these. Think what they'll be worth in twenty years when she's a wealthy mainstream author.

•**FACTSHEET FIVE** T-Shirts, designed by Freddie Baer, are now available for a measley $8.50 postpaid. The only color available is yellow, but it's a yellow that will knock your eyes back into your skull, not some wimpy pastel color. Well, actually, the second edition is a bit wimpier (so you early buyers, you have a collectors' item!), but still beautiful. Specify size or we'll send you whatever we feel like. Think of the possibilities for starting a conversation!

•I now have a new set of **FACTSHEET FIVE** ads available, also typeset and put together by Freddie Baer. In the future I may swap or pay for some of these to be published, but meanwhile if you want to give me a free plug write and I'll send you a copy.

•I am still offering the **FACTSHEET FIVE** mailing list on self-adhesive labels. This issue's list of around 4200 names is available for $150. If you prefer, you can get the list on plain paper for $115. I can also provide specialty lists (all fanzines, all distributors, all music zines, all artists, or most anything else you can come up with) for 5¢ a name on labels or 3¢ a name on paper. If the specialty list is not one that I can easily sort, an additional hourly research fee will apply.

•I am also prepared to offer the mailing list on IBM-PC compatible DSDD diskettes. The mailing list is archived on one diskette and I'll include the shareware DBMS I use (PC-FILE+) on three more diskettes. *You must have a hard disk to access the FF mailing list!* If you are interested in getting the actual text of the zine on diskette, please contact me to discuss appropriate hardware and software, or check the **FF** BBS. You can get the mailing list set for $18.

•If anyone doesn't want their name given out on mailing labels or diskette, please let me know.

•The **FF ZINE EXCHANGE** is still running, although there's a bit of a material shortage right now and it remains, as always, a low priorit compared to actually publishing the magazine. Zine Editors: If you're at all interested in having samples of your zine go to people who don't even know you exist, send as many as you want to me to distribute. The rest of you: Send me an SASE with 25¢ to $2.40 postage and I'll stuff it with whatever I have laying about ($2.40 is enough to mail a couple of pounds in the country, so use a decent-sized envelope [10x13 is a good size]: two pounds is about 8 issues of **FF**, OK?). You should also take a look at a rate chart; while $2.40 will cover postage on two pounds, $2.30 is only enough for eleven ounces. I'd recommend springing for the full two pounds. You might also take note of six similar offers:

Gene Guthrie's (6221 Acton Rd., Indianapolis, IN 46259) offer to send local freebies to anyone who sends him postage;

Rodney Leighton's (RR#3, Pugwash, NS B0K 1L0, CANADA) "Share the Wealth" plan, where for $5 you get back an envelope full of stuff—or he'll swap for stuff of your own, write him for details;

Dallas Swan's (PO Box 270, Horntown, VA 23395) offer to fill up large SASEs with as many zines as they will hold;

Jim Testa's (151 First Ave., Box A., New York, NY 10003) Demo Xchange of band demo tapes, also available for a few dollars postage;

R. Wherever's (11 Bayberry Ln., Cohasset, MA 02025) offer to fill up large SASEs with as many zines as they will hold.

and Rosemary West's (PO Box 8059, Mission Hills, CA 91346) offer of personalized computer-generated poetry for 50¢ an ounce, up to five pounds—send your name and the names of a few friends to assure personalization.

Anyhow, remember, send a SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE to minimize the work I have to do. I mean it. The next person who sends a blank envelope and a check, instead of buying the stamps himself and pasting them on, is going to get something nasty in the mail. If he gets anything at all. OK, OK, I'll make an exception for those of you in foreign countries: just send me a check or cash and a self-addressed envelope and I'll do the rest. Those out of the country can supply up to $4.50 worth of postage, since the rates are higher. Those in the country should stop using such obviously glued stamps or I'm going to start pitching your envelopes in the trash. *This has already happened to some people stupid enough to ignore what I've said! Use mint stamps only!!* (Look, it's OK to glue down un-used stamps; what I'm upset about it people putting the glue over the top of them so they can be re-used. If this doesn't make sense to you, call me). And please be patient; Zine Exchange envelopes are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. The backlog of orders waiting to be filled has been reduced considerably in the last few months, but there's still something like a 2-month line ahead of you.

A few clarifications about the Zine Exchange: No, I am not going to send you any back issues of **FACTSHEET FIVE**. No, you may not request a specific zine you saw reviewed here; that copy is in the archives, and that's where it's staying. You can request a specific type of zine, but often I cannot fill requests; it depends on what's been sent to me recently for distribution.

•I put together an index to each issue, usually about a 24-page pamphlet. If you want to see a copy, send me $1.50. To get it every issue, you should sign up for a library rate subscription.

•**HOW TO PUBLISH A FANZINE** is my first book. In it I reveal darned near everything that I learned in ten years of small publishing, from production through printing and binding to the mails to promotion and financing. It's 91 pages perfect-bound, published by Loompanics, but I'll send you a copy of your very own—autographed even—for $6 postpaid if you buy it from me.

I've been following the reviews of this book with some amusement, so it's probably time to clear the air. Yes, the book is overpriced compared to the usual fanzine production; so is just about everything Loompanics has published, and I'm undercutting my publisher's price as far as I can. Yes, I know a lot more about fanzines than is contained in the book; the manuscript was started about five years ago. Yes, there is a revised version coming, probably around the start of 1991—and yes, I will arrange for those who purchase this edition to get the new one at a lower price. All satisfied?

As of March 1990, there are less than fifty copies of the original edition left; when these are gone, it may be a year before the book is back in print.

GETTING ZINES

Just a few hints to consider when you're writing away for fanzines:

•If I list a name in the address for a zine, you ought to make checks or money orders out to that name rather than the zine name. If a zine has odd payment requirements, I try to note this in the address section of the listing. In general, cash is preferable to money orders which are preferable to checks.

•On a related topic, when I put a question mark after the price it means that I'm guessing because the zine editors didn't list a price.

•I list single copy rates whenever I can find them, otherwise I try to indicate how many issues your subscription covers. If I put something like "$10/yr" it means I can't tell how many issues come out in a year.

•If I separate issue numbers with a dash, they're single issues; a slash indicates two-in-one issues. So, for example, "#7-11/12" indicates that I received #7, a double issue containing #11 and #12, and everything in between. Prices given are for one issue, not for a set of all the issues reviewed, unless otherwise indicated.

•On zines with a price under $1, it really helps to include a few stamps for postage. "SASE" means self-addressed stamped envelope: #10 with 25¢ postage unless otherwise specified.

•Don't send loose coins in an envelope. If you want to send coins, tape them to an index card and wrap a piece of paper around that. And remember that there's a postal surcharge on envelopes more than 1/4 inch thick.

•Canadians and some Britishers generally don't mind receiving U.S. funds in cash. For Canada it is generally safe to send US$1 for each C$1 in price; the exchange rate is high enough to cover postage. For Great Britain, US$2 for each £1 asking price similarly allows for postage even after covering the exchange. For other countries you should think about alternative payment. Foreign currency is available at larger banks, and IRCs (International Reply Coupons, which can be exchanged for stamps almost anywhere in the world) at your post office. Foreign MOs are also available from the post office, but can take forever to get. Sending checks to other countries is not a good idea; bank exchange charges can be outrageous.

- "Age Statement" means that you should send along a signed note saying that you're over 18 (or over 21, if you are) to help the publisher avoid legal hassles associated with distributing sexually-explicit material.
- "The Usual" refers to the traditional method of obtaining SF fanzines without sullying oneself with cash. Generally this includes trading other zines, writing locs, contributing articles or art, or being recipient of a whim. These days $1 is often accepted as the equivalent to these more active approaches.
- I'd appreciate it if you'd mention **FACTSHEET FIVE** when ordering zines you saw reviewed here. It helps us all in the long run, as the more credibility I build up the more fine zines I'll be able to bring to your attention.
- If you have any problems with a zine please let me know. I'll be happy to contact publishers in cases of non-receipt. 99% of the time it's just a case of things being lost in the mail.
- If you have time, any zine publisher enjoys hearing comments on the zine he has sent you. This is especially true if you didn't like it; we all like to improve. Even a simple note of thanks can make a publisher's day, though.
- Many zine publishers print small quantities, so you may not be able to get the exact issue that I reviewed. If you **must** have that particular issue, say so, and be prepared to pay extra. Otherwise it's best just to request the most recent or the next issue and save trouble for everyone. And be patient; if the current issue is all gone, it may take a while.
- And since it may take a while, the envelope your order came in may get lost. Make sure your address is on the letter itself! Otherwise you may not get your copy despite the best intentions of the publisher.
- Most zine publishers are willing to exchange their zines for others, so I generally don't mention this in listings unless I know they *don't* swap. But use some discretion—a 150-page typeset music publication is unlikely to swap with a 4-page xeroxed newsletter on Central American farming. And remember, publishers are under no obligation to respond to unsolicited zines, so if you can't afford to give away the copy, don't send it.

★★★★★

NOTED BUT NOT SEEN

Sometimes I get publicity for zines without getting copies of the zines themselves. Here's the news on a few items that I haven't read for myself:

A CAMPER'S NEWSLETTER ($2.50 from Wildflower Press, PO Box 20526, Bloomington, MN 55420 is not surprisingly directed at people who like to camp, on a variety of budgets.

THE BLUE SWAN REVIEW 1990 GUIDE TO WOMEN'S FASHION CATALOGS ($7.95 from PO Box 9925, San Diego, CA 92109) includes reviews and listings for more than 600 women's fashion catalogs, as well as feature articles.

NIGHT MOUNTAINS ($3 from Lorrie Beaver, 1845B Pemberton Ln., Indianapolis, IN 46260) is a small press horror magazine.

TRUE NORTH ($20/10 issues from Citizens Concerned About Free Trade, PO Box 8052, Saskatoon, SK, S7K 4R7, CANADA) is "The Voice of Canadian Independence", put out by folks who don't care for their country becoming a US colony.

uTOPYa ($5 from Trevor Blake, PO Box 23061, Knoxville, TN 37933-1061) is a new apa, intended for members of the Temple Ov Psychick Youth. Write for more information before sending money.

VAMPIRE ARCHIVES ($30/yr from 2926 W. Leland, Chicago, IL 60625) keep track of news about vampires from all media.

THOSE FUNNY NUMBERS

What the little stuff in parentheses after each zine review do is tell you how big the zine is. First comes a letter for the size of the paper, or at least close to it:

A3	A3 size, about 11 1/2 by 16 1/4
A4	A4 size, about 8 1/4 by 11 1/2
A5	A5 size, about 5 3/4 by 8 1/4
D	Digest, 5 1/2 by 8 1/2
HL	Half Legal, 7 by 8 1/2 or 4 1/4 by 14
HS	Half Standard, 4 1/4 by 11
L	Legal, 8 1/2 by 14
M	Mini, 4 1/4 by 5 1/2
MM	Micro, smaller than mini
O	Oversized, larger than tabloid or odd-sized
Q	Quarto, 8 by 10
S	Standard, 8 1/2 by 11
T	Tabloid, usually 11 by 17 on newsprint

Next comes a number, which is the number of pages. Last there may be a suffix: "t" for typeset or laser-printed, or "r" for photo-reduced type.

ADVERTISING

FACTSHEET FIVE advertising space is available as follows:

Full Page	7 1/2 by 9 3/4
Half Page	7 1/2 by 4 3/4
Half Page	3 3/4 by 9 3/4
Quarter Page	3 3/4 by 4 3/4
Eighth Page	3 3/4 by 2 1/4
Twelfth Page	2 1/4 by 2

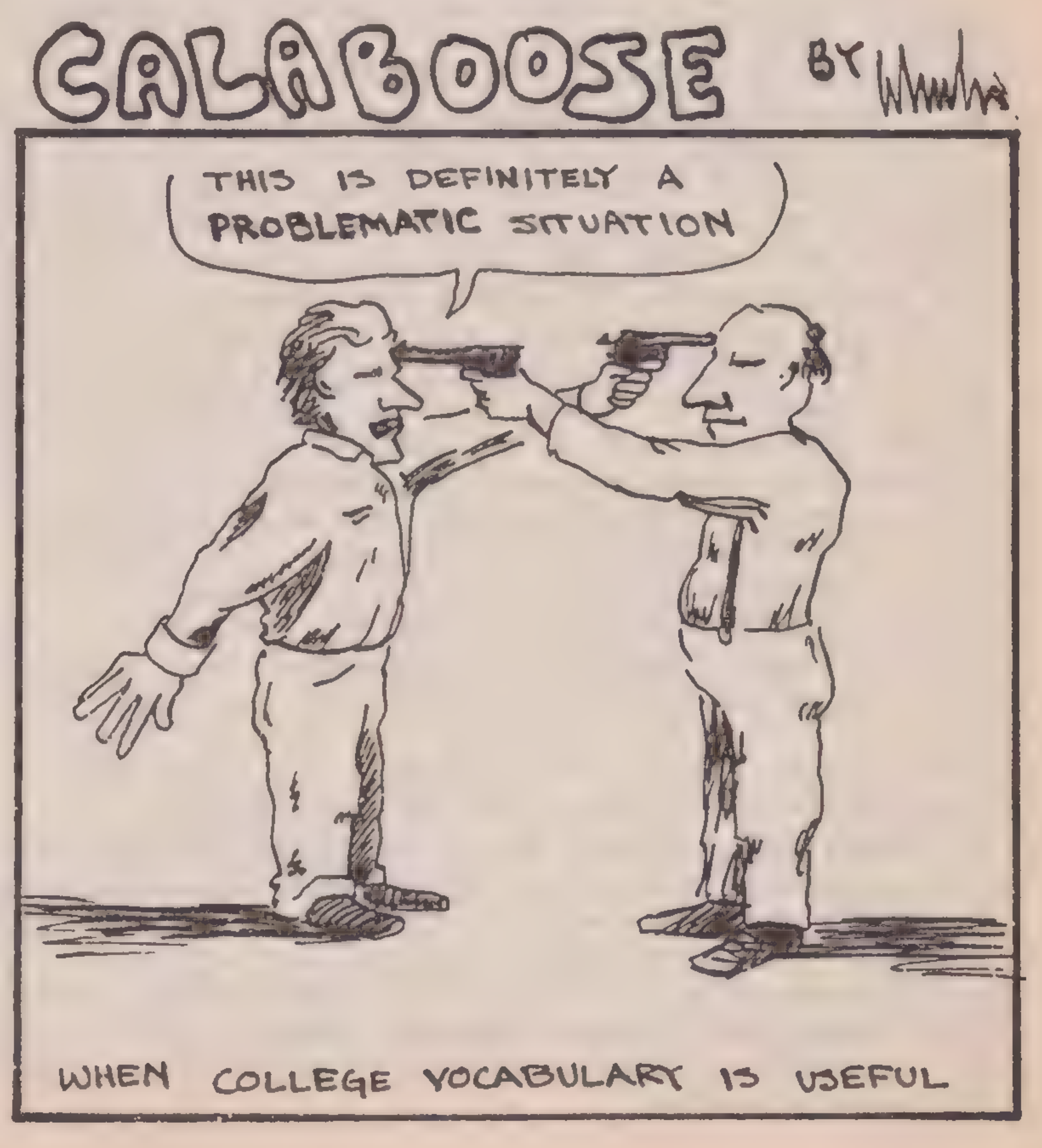
Copy should be submitted as camera-ready, in the size it is to run. For sizes not on the list, please call me. *Please note: a standard business card is an eighth-page ad.* Current rates are as follows:

Back Cover with Second Color	$190.00
Full Page with Second Color	$170.00
Full Page	$145.00
Half Page	$80.00
Quarter Page	$50.00
Eighth Page	$25.00
Twelfth Page	$12.50

Ads which are paid in advance for two or more insertions may take a 20% discount from the above prices—and are protected from price rises during the life of the ad. This discount does not apply to twelfth page ads. This discount also does not apply to ads with a second color.

Ad space needing a second color, either back cover or interior, should be reserved with me before sending in copy, as this space is obviously limited. Other ads need not reserve space in advance, though you're welcome to do so. Generally, I do not trade advertising with other publishers, though I make *rare* exceptions for those with a large circulation in areas that I don't ordinarily reach.

Next ad deadline is May 20, 1990.


CALABOOSE BY
THIS IS DEFINITELY A PROBLEMATIC SITUATION
WHEN COLLEGE VOCABULARY IS USEFUL

CHANGE YOUR LIFE AND KEEP THE CHANGE!

THE NEWSLETTER FOR THOSE WHO LOVE SUCCESS...

YES!!!
YES!!!
YES!!!
YES!!!
YES!!!

GET IT UP... AND KEEP IT UP !!!

(YOUR CONSCIOUSNESS, THAT IS)

* MORE SLACK THAN "BOB" *

GET YER-SELF **FREE** WITH **THE POSNERIAN TIMES**

USER FRIENDLY – INTERACTIVE

- ☐ TRUE POSITIVE INPUT
- ☐ AMAZING MIND-SETS
- ☐ LOVE FOR YOUR INNER CHILDREN
- ☐ NURTURING AND CARING
- ☐ TECHNOLOGIES AND TECHNIQUES

HEY KIDS, THIS IS IT! BEST YET!

THE POSNERIAN TIMES...

POSITIVE REALITY CREATION...
RAPID PERSONAL GROWTH...
NURTURING FOR INTELLECTUALS...
HEART PERSPECTIVE FOR BRAINS..
FUN ON YOUR CHOICE OF PATH...

POWERFUL WORD-DRUGS!!!

BREAK OUT OF YOUR OWN EMOTION-PRISONS!!!

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN. $3.00 (U.S.) GETS YOU STARTED NOW! SEND $3.00 FOR YOUR SAMPLE OF THE POSNERIAN TIMES TO:
JERRY POSNER, BOX 244, WEST STOCKBRIDGE,
MA 01266-0244. SATISFACTION ASSURED!

THIS IS JUST WHAT I WAS SEEKING!!! THIS IS JUST WHAT I NEED! THIS IS MY PATH! I WANT THIS INFO!

GET POSITIVE ABOUT YOUR GOALS

RECEIVE THE AFFIRMATIONS OF YOUR SOUL.

TIME TO HEAL YOUR INNER CHILD

many "CREATING BETTER MYTHS SINCE 1953!"

HUMANS & PEOPLE (I spoke with) **LOVE THE POSNERIAN TIMES !**

ENJOY THE FREEDOM AND ECSTASY OF RUNNING YOUR OWN LIFE. AVOID THE MISERY OF RUINING IT!

FLASH!!!

LET US WASH YOUR BRAIN IN POSITIVE WAYS!

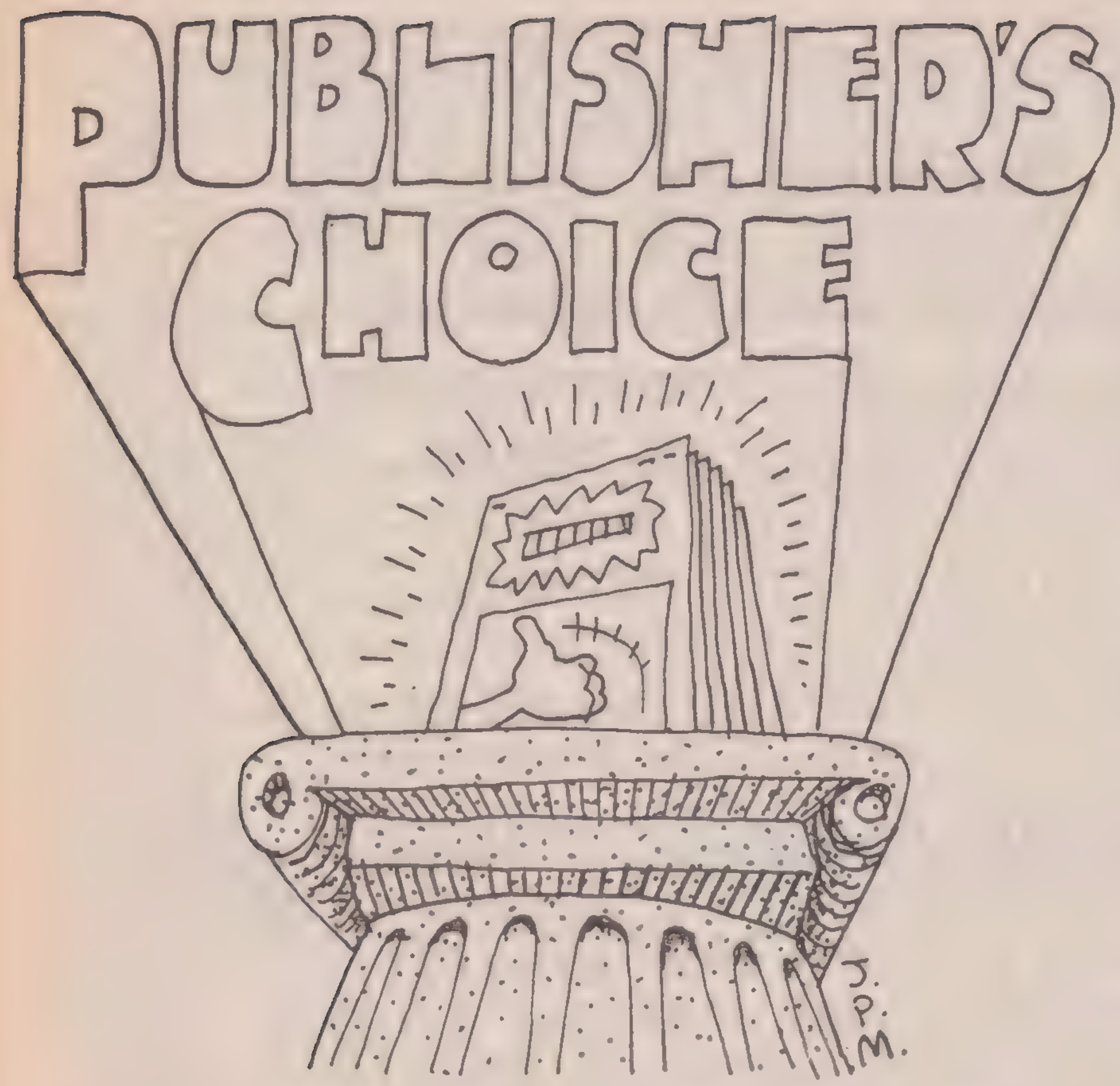
-TEACH YOURSELF TO TUNE YOUR MIND LIKE A SHORT-WAVE RADIO

YOUR "ONE-STOP" POSITIVE PROGRAMMING SOURCE!

GIVE YOURSELF AN UNUSUALLY POSITIVE GIFT! SUBSCRIBE TO THE POSNERIAN TIMES! FOR A 4 ISSUE SUBSCRIPTION SENT FIRST CLASS MAIL, SEND JUST $10.00 TO:
JERRY POSNER, THE POSNERIAN TIMES, BOX 244, WEST STOCKBRIDGE MA. 01266-0244. THANKS! SEE YA!

LEARN TO LASER FOCUS YOUR ALREADY **POWERFUL MIND!**

IF I AIN'T LIVIN MY OWN MYTH, THEN WHOSE MYTH AM I LIVING?



A note for newcomers: These are not necessarily the "best" zines reviewed in this issue. They're ones that caught my eye because they're offbeat, exciting, and doing what they do very well—and so they get written up in a bit more depth and featured in this section.

★★★★★

THE ACT Vol. 2 #1 ($6 from Performance Project, Inc., PO Box 3192, Church St. Stn., New York, NY 10008-3192): Performance art is one of those activities which I find largely opaque—until I sit down with an issue of **THE ACT**. In descriptions, criticism and essays, the writers here consider and explore performance art. Editor Jeffrey Greenberg is committed to keeping the boundaries open, though, and so "explanations" are few and far between. Among the intriguing and impressive work in this issue are an essay on "Life/Art Projects" from Ellen Zweig, documentation of half a dozen performances by Toine Horvers, a interview with Carolee Schneemann, and Suzanne Lacy's "Skeptical of the Spectacle". All in all, this is an entertaining and eye-opening periodical. (S-100t)

★★★★★

CRYONICS Vol. 11 #2 ($2.50 from Alcor Life Extension Foundation, 12327 Doherty St., Riverside, CA 92503): Alcor is in the business of putting people into cryonic suspension on death, so that they can be revived in the future, when technological and medical advances have rendered death nonexistent or transitory. Their journal constantly tracks the many facets of getting cryonics accepted in society, from legal battles to TV mentions. They also keep an eye on advances like nanotechnology, and seriously consider what will be necessary to revive their members who are already in suspension. This issue has a detailed report on the suspension of one member, news on the opening of a facility in Britain, and lots of letters from readers and members of the group. They also have an attractive brochure explaining their program, which I imagine they would send you for a buck if you're interested in thinking about extending your life, or you can just call them at 800-367-2228. (HL-57t)

★★★★★

☐**GOAT GAP GAZETTE** Vol. 17 #9-Vol. 18 #1 ($16/11 issues from 5110 Bayard Ln. #2, Houston, TX 77006-6512): This is truly amazing: a whole tabloid paper devoted to chili. And it's not just chili but chili cookoffs, which produce dozens of listings of upcoming events and winners from past events as well as rules sponsored by the Chili Appreciation Society International. There are fierce arguments about what belongs in chili (No okra, insists on writer in #9, quoting Leviticus—and I'm sure they wouldn't even bother to sneer at my own vegetarian chili), gossip about folks from the chili world, and notes from rival chili organizations. About the only thing you won't find here is detailed recipes; I gather they are rather fiercely protective of such things. (T-12t)

★★★★★

JERSEY BEAT #39 ($2 from 418 Gregory Ave. #2, Weehawken, NJ 07087): Perhaps the best word for Jim Testa's music zine, which has now been going on for something more than seven years, is *solid*. Not exclusively focused on Jersey, it covers new music in the punk, harcore, rock, pop and other arenas. This issue opens up with some year and decade's best lists from various staffers, then gets into interviews and reviews. Das Damen, Big Wheel and Supertouch come in for chats. There's also a special section on bass players, asking them (among other things) how they ended up on that instrument, and lots of photos. Jim also keeps on top of zine and music trends, and has interesting things to say about the state of music, the major label push to use fanzines, and other current topics. For an introduction to what a music zine can be, it's hard to beat **JERSEY BEAT**. (S-64t)

★★★★★

PANMAG #28 ($1000 from Mark Bloch, PO Box 1500, New York, NY 10009): The high price has to do with one of the central theses of this issue of Mark's mail art and networking magazine: that it's time to take a break from analyzing art and just do it, or at least do something. But *if* you mention that you read about it here you can get a copy for only $5. The issue is subtitled "The Last Word: Art Strike, Word Strike, Plagiarism and Originality". Mark starts out from last year's Glasgow Festival of Plagiarism and goes on to examine a lot of the ideas that are floating around the avant-garde art world these days. His analysis of the Art Strike in particular strikes a chord with me; as an insider he is better able to enunciate what's wrong with this concept than I have been, and as a creative man, he's come up with some real alternatives as well. A serious cultural document that deserves to be read by anyone who's baffled by Art Strike or Plagiarist concepts and wants to become a knowledgeable insider. (D-30t)

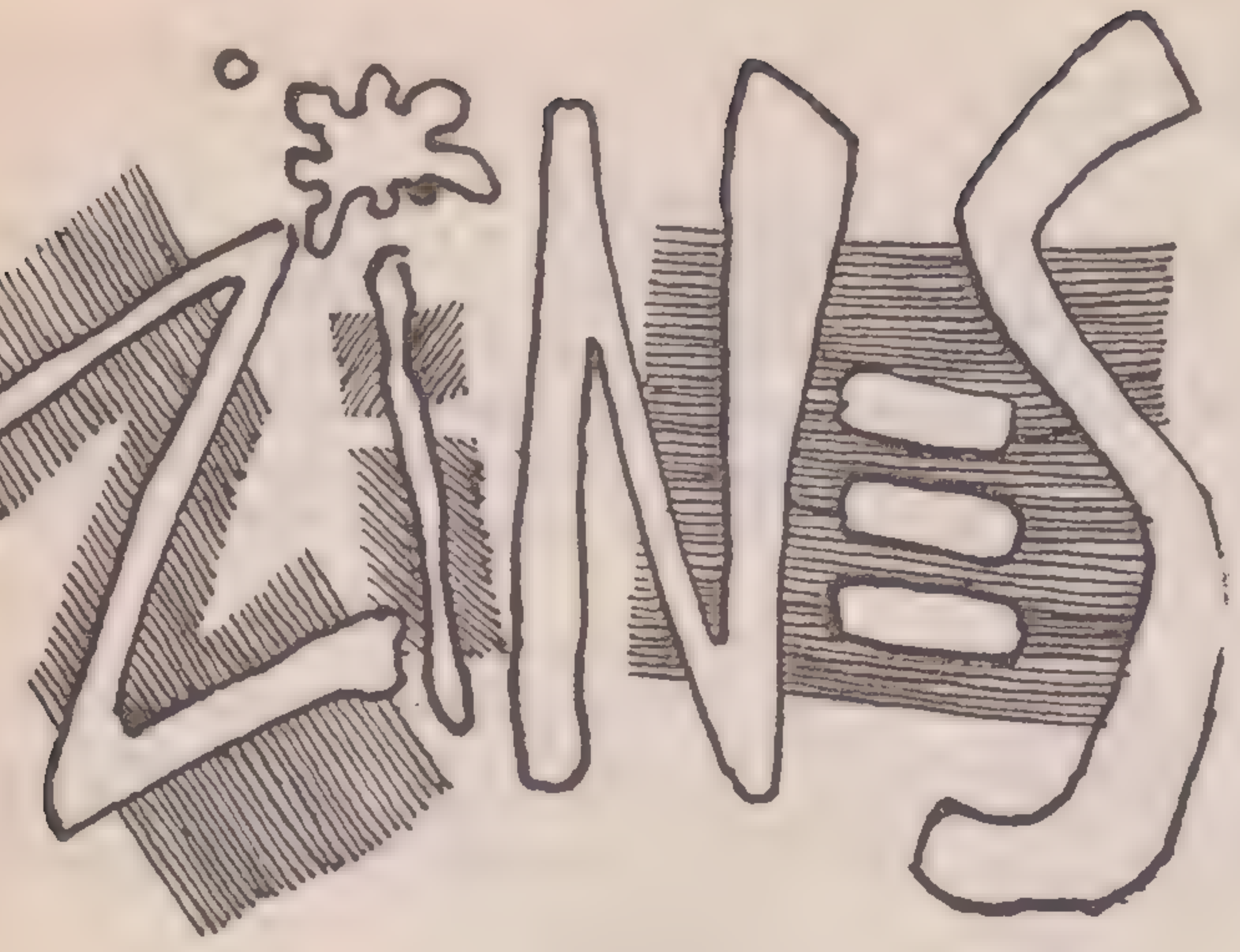
★★★★★

THE SHADOW #9 ($2 *CASH* from PO Box 20298, New York, NY 10009): In case you missed it, there's a war going on in the Lower East Side of New York, between homeless people and squatters on the one hand, and cops and the rest of the power structure on the other. **THE SHADOW** documents all this, and they're obviously touching nerves; this issue has threatening letters from the RCP *and* a death threat from the cops (brought on by printing pictures of undercover cops in every issue). Much of this issue revolves around the story of the ABC community center, a squat and free school...or at least it was, until 100 cops busted in and hauled everyone away. Sure, the City is "addressing" the problems of homelessness...but if you read this tabloid you'll get the dirt on who's profiting from the renovations and how ridiculously much money they cost. Feisty, outspoken, and determined to build a movement or get busted trying. (T-20)

★★★★★

☐**STORY COMIX** ($3 (?) from Pete Moss, PO Box 6515, San Francisco, CA 94101): There's no number on the cover and a blank spot where the price should be, but it's worth the effort to get a copy of this collection of stories by Pete with art from a couple of folks. "The New Osaka Anti-Ninja Skate Team" is a great future adventure story which will attract Japanophiles and skaters alike. "Mark White Messenger" gets into quite some adventures on his job, while "Curly & Jephitha" is the story of a biker and his rather strange woman. The art and lettering tend to be sort of New Wavish, especially in the pieces done by JR Swanson. All in all a fine example of the good work going on in independent comics these days. (S-52)

MARK NEVILLE 89



Just a reminder: the □ symbol prepended to some of the entries indicates a periodical which is getting its first review in these pages. Also, the zines in boxes are the ones that have told me which boxes they would like to be in.

★★★★★

!NKSL!NGERS! Vol. 1 #2 ($1 cash/stamps/IRCs from Rhonda-Lisa Wilk, 2281-K Diamond Hill Rd., Woonsocket, RI 02895): A pen pal publication for folks who just want to have fun writing, and are not worried about getting married, immigrating, or otherwise using the posts. Rhonda-Lisa also provides a real good section of notes on other pen pal clubs and publications. (D-17)

★★★★★

11TH ST RUSE Vol. 3 #3 ($1-2/4 issues from 322 E. 11th St. #23, New York, NY 10003): A collection of texts that seem generally lighthearted, though this time around the lead article is pretty serious, a talk with some homeless folks. Later a Christmas tree seller reveals his secrets of success, and the year's picks for "in" and "out" appear. (S-4)

★★★★★

□**1917** #7 ($5/4 issues from PO Box 31796, Oakland, CA 94604): Another highly-theoretical Communist journal, this one from the Bolshevik Tendency. Although they spend some pages discussing current events, from China to Poland to the abortion fight, what really seems to excite them is Spartacists. Several articles are devoted to saying bad things about various Sparts, including one group referred to as a "political bandit operation." (S-40t)

★★★★★

2600 Vol. 6 #4 ($18/yr from PO Box 752, Middle Island, NY 11953): I've been impressed with the development of this one over the last several years. Centered around phone phreaking and hacking, it's also an excellent source of information on new services in the world of telecommunications—and new insanities on the part of the megacorporations involved. #4 includes more notes on hacking primos and a fascinating series of letters from readers. (D-48t)

★★★★★

ABIOLYSIS MACROSCOPE Vol. 4 #1 ($1 [no cash] from Abiolysig, PO Box 18698, South Lake Tahoe, CA 95706): This is a MENSA Special Interest Group newsletter for folks whose ambition it is to avoid death through cryonics, nanotechnology, and other scientific means. Among the contents here are some excerpts from a recent court decision recognizing a right to be suspended and research on suspended animation. (HL-11t)

★★★★★

ABRASAX #7 ($16/4 issues from James M. Martin, PO Box 1219, Corpus Christi, TX 78403-1219): The magazine of a somewhat iconoclastic Thelemite group, the Ordo Templi Baphe-Metis. This issue they delve into Wicca and Shamanism, examining traditions both ancient and modern. Along the way they review books, feature the autobiography of a wicked witch, laugh at some bizarre Christians, and generally have an esoteric good time. (S-56)

★★★★★

THE ACE Feb.-Mar. 1990 ($16/yr from PO Box 11201, Shawnee Mission, KS 66207-0201): Newsletter of the Association of Clandestine Enthusiasts, radio listeners who concentrate on unauthorized stations. There are a lot of them out there, from revolutionary groups to folks just broadcasting music for the fun of it. They track as many as they can, give hints on getting in touch, and keep the readers abreast of continuing battles between pirates and the FCC. (D-24r)

★★★★★

□**A.C.T.** #1-2 ($2 from 276 Sandowne Dr., Waterloo, ONT, N2K 2C2, CANADA): That stands for "Artists for Cultural Terrorism", and part of their closing manifesto here reads "Art does not have to be a commodity! It can be an outcry against oppression!" Inside, there are a batch of different pieces poking at the corners of society, attacking the reformers as well as those in power, from surrealist texts to pointed cartoons. (S-30)

★★★★★

□**THE ACTIVIST** Vol. 6 #1 ($5/5 issues from ACT For Disarmament coalition, 225A Brunswick Ave., Toronto, ONT, M5S 2M6, CANADA): A peace newspaper from Canada, which looks at happenings around the world. The chief topic, though, is cruise missile testing, the U.S. invasion of Canada to do so, and its effects on native peoples. They have some of the best updates on the Innu protests I've yet seen. (T-8t)

★★★★★

ADBUSTERS Vol. 1 #2 ($5 from The Media Foundation, 1243 W. 7th Ave., Vancouver, BC, V6H 1B7, CANADA): "A magazine of media and environmental strategies". These guys are trying to use TV ads to fight insidious TV ads, even to the point of filming the "Tubebusters" series pointing up TV addiction—which of course the networks refuse to run. But they're sneaking some stuff on to independent stations, and printing a whole lot of good solid analyses of the insanity of modern marketing culture. (S-96t)

★★★★★

ADULT VIDEO NEWS Feb.-Mar. 1990 ($4.50 from 8600 West Chester Pike #300, Upper Darby, PA 19082): The comprehensive review zine of porn videos—X-rated, R-rated, straight, bi, gay; they cover everything. Along with this you get both industry gossip and free speech news, as well as dozens of ads that skate the borders of politeness. For $9.95 you can get their 1990 Buyers Guide, with quick ratings of hundreds of films, addresses for manufacturers and distributors, and charts of the industry. (S-92t)

★★★★★

AFRAID Vol. 1 #4 ($5 from 2170 S. Harbor Blvd. #270, Anaheim, CA 92802): A fast-growing magazine for the horror writer, whether beginning or published. The columns—with the exception of Chris Lacher's sleazy chauvinism—are the best part, delving into what's out there and what you have to do to get your own works out there. They review small and large press items and publish news of the field as well. (S-20t)

★★★★★

□**AFRICAN COMMENTARY** Vol. 1 #1-4 ($29/12 issues from 29 Pray St., Amherst, MA 01002 Attn: Sub #118): A new magazine "for people of African descent", whether they be in their homelands, America, the Caribbean, or elsewhere. They examine political and social issues in Africa and around the world, and feature a large variety of thoughtful articles. #4 has a large section on the legacy and thought of Martin Luther King. (S-64t)

★★★★★

□**AFRICAN FARMER** #2 (Donation from The Hunger Project, One Madison Ave., New York, NY 10010): A magazine laying out many of the ways in which farmers in Africa are helping to increase food production on that continent. These range from more fuel-efficient stoves (which save time and labor) to new crops to cooperative ventures. (S-56t)

★★★★★

□**AIDS TREATMENT NEWS** #94 ($2 from John S. James, PO Box 411256, San Francisco, CA 94141): A newsletter which tries to keep abreast of the most promising therapies and drugs for treating AIDS and AIDS-opportunistic infections. This issue reports the possibility of a faster way to test anti-viral drugs and has some notes on treatments for CMV. (S-6t)

★★★★★

AGONIZER Vol. II #1 (Send SASE for cost and availability to 2508 Pine St., Philadelphia, PA 19103): A thick journal for Klingons on earth. My copy of this issue was stained with some suspicious green blood, and that's just part of the warlike stuff within. News on meetings, Klingon culture, other ST zines, color photos. This is clearly a labor of love, and a look at an amazing subculture hiding among us. (S-110t)

★★★★★

AIRGLOW #8 ($1/2 issues or The Usual from T. L. Bohman, PO Box 14, East Thetford, VT 05043-0014): A personalzine which chronicles all sorts of bits and pieces of the editor's life: work in an ambulance, astronomy, science fiction zines, a friend looking for work, and more. A bit eccentric in places (as with the stapling arrangement) but fun and well-written. (S-30)

★★★★★

THE ALARM Spring 1990 ($5/4 issues from 1340 West Irving Park Rd. #122, Chicago, IL 60613): An anarchist journal with about an even split between theory and current affairs. This issue pokes at the invasion of Panama and sardonically wishes farewell to Ceaucescu. It's also got several manifestoes and expositions on things like anarchist economics and private property. Seems to be free of the bickering that marks some movement journals. (T-12t)

★★★★★

ALASKA METAPHYSICAL COUNCIL NEWSLETTER Feb. 1990 ($12/12 issues from Alaska Metaphysical Council, PO Box 93006, Anchorage, AK 99509-3006): A collection of New Age materials, from essays on peace and love to the group's predictions for the coming year, including both medical and social breakthroughs. They provide a listing of local New Age practitioners and also have face to face meetings. (S-14r)

★★★★★

☐**ALASKA PRO WRESTLING REPORT** ($1 from Sean P. Ryan, PO Box 84303, Fairbanks, AK 99708-4303): A real short bulletin, which is hardly surprising since the pros don't get up to Alaska too often. Sean has news of an upcoming event, and plans to make a bigger bulletin with sponsorship from others. (S-1t)

★★★★★

THE ALEMBIC #3 ($2 from Rick Harrison, PO Box 547014, Orlando, FL 32854): A journal of anarchist and other radical ideas that tries to be philosophically chewy without being maddeningly obscure. For the most part they succeed, as in Rick's own review of Rifkin's **TIME WARS** in this issue. There's also a reprinted essay from Thoreau and a letter from Bob Black. This zine, by the way, is available electronically on the FF BBS. (D-17r)

★★★★★

ALL-PURPOSE ZINE

☐**TUBER FUZZ** #1 (50¢ from Martin Robaszewski, 130 New Rd. #E-14, Parsippany, NJ 07054): A short zine of reviews and opinion. Martin talks about rap music, role-playing games, and comics, among other things. Manga gets a page, and there's also a rather crude comics page. (D-8)

★★★★★

THE ALTERED STATE Vol. 6 #3 ($1 from Valerie Rosen, 1256 S. Garner St., State College, PA 16801): A high school underground paper with a literary bent—lots of poetry and a couple of serialized short stories show up in this issue. There's also psychedelic art, an essay on Henry Miller, and a nasty story of homelessness. (S-22)

★★★★★

☐**THE ALTERNATIVE NEWSLETTER** March 1990 ($2 (?) from James B. Boskey, Seton Hall Law School, 1111 Raymond Blvd., Newark, NJ 07102): This is the newsletter of the Section of Alternative Dispute Resolution of the Association of Alternative Law Schools. Apparently it's free with membership, but I suspect you non-lawyers might be able to get a sample for copying costs. James tracks books and news about non-trial ways to settle cases, and does a lot of networking. This issue has an extensive list of other groups involved in ADR, from arbitration to mediation to who knows what. (S-34t)

★★★★★

ALTERNATIVES Mar./Apr. 1990 ($22.50/4 issues from Faculty of Environmental Studies, University of Waterlook, Waterloo, ONT, N2L 3G1, CANADA): A fat double issue of this journal of "society, technology, and environment". This issue looks at the interrelationships between conservation and sustainable development, asking what we can expect for the long term. They also print plenty of short news bits, including one on a new process for turning sewage sludge into oil. (S-92t)

★★★★★

ALTERNATIVES NEWSLETTER Vol. 1 #17 ($2/4 issues from 1657 W. Pratt #1A, Chicago, IL 60626): This one is still small enough to be thanking subscribers individually on the cover, but fun anyhow. The contents are a bit of a potpourri: Marty Mouse comics, a Q&A column, an essay on the strange choices of words to illustrate in dictionaries and a page on strange religious news are among the contents in this issue. (S-8)

★★★★★

AMERICAN FORUM Vol. 7 #1-4 ($4.95/6 months from 971 Van Duzer St., Staten Island, NY 10304-1863): A medley of strange poetry, personal ads, bizarre comics and who knows what else. #2 starts a new serialized comic strip called "Terroress" by K.L. Roberts. (S-4)

★★★★★

THE AMERICAN GAY ATHEIST Vol. 8 #1-2 ($24/yr from PO Box 66711, Houston, TX 77266-6711): This one seems to be more atheist than gay, though both sets of concerns are represented. #1 starts off with a review of AGA's 1989 activities, before moving into short stories on things happening around the state of Texas and around the world. (S-12)

★★★★★

THE AMERICAN RATIONALIST Jan./Feb.-Mar./Apr. 1990 ($1 from PO Box 994, St. Louis, MO 63144): "The Alternative to Religious Superstition", this magazine is very strong on covering the historical roots of freethought as well as surveying the present scene through book reviews and articles. In the January issue, they discuss the writings of Maynard Shipley and Chapman Cohen, dredge up some sordid papal history, and consider the question of whether atheism deprives us of a real comfort in life. March has a nice look at how various atheists propose to deal with religion if they had the power in society. (S-16t)

★★★★★

AMERICAN WINDOW CLEANER #20 $6 from 27 Oak Creek Rd., El Sobrante, CA 94803): This issue reports the sad news of the death of founding publisher Rod Woodward. But life and the industry go on, with coverage here of the first annual International Window Cleaning Association convention and trade show and the usual assortment of products and techniques for professional window cleaning. (S-24t)

★★★★★

AMERICA'S AT OUR DOORSTEP Vol. III #2 (On Request from Dennis Brezina, PO Box 411, Churchton, MD 20733): The only newsletter I know of emanating from a bed and breakfast host—although the topic tends to be anything but. This issue includes an argument between stereotypical man and stereotypical woman, a selection of quotes, cartoons, and pranks, and another letter fro their Bushman correspondent. (S-6)

★★★★★

☐**AMERRIKUA!** Vol. 8 #1 ($15/yr from PO Box 35, Schuyler Falls, NY 12985-0035): A Native American tabloid which is strongly value-based rather than news-based. The essays and articles here generally speak to ideas of a changing world, consensus decision-making, and so on. A "Politics of Peace" is one of their goals, and it looks like they're doing good work in that direction. (T-16t)

★★★★★

☐**AMP** #3-5 ($1/4 issues from 5525 Claremont #2, Oakland, CA 94618): A short zine whose title is an acronym that changes meanings, from "Ascripted Medias and Poetry" to "Analysis of Media & Politics" and so on. Besides poetry, #3 has an essay on the drug war and some political satire, while #5 has suggestions on getting on the air on talk radio shows. (S-4)

★★★★★

ANARCHIST LABOR BULLETIN #16-17 ($1 from PO Box 210095, San Francisco, CA 94121-0095): A mix of union news and anarchist news with the occasional intersection—though they retain the habit of other leftist papers of covering big-name union struggles (Pittson, for example) as if they had anything to do with democracy and workers. But there are interesting tidbits here, and their international news selection is getting better. #17 includes an interview with the General Secretary of the CNT-AIT. (S-8)

★★★★★

☐**ANARCHOLL #4** (50¢ from Darek Misiuna, 03-610 Warsaw, Guliwera 29, POLAND): A Polish anarchist bulletin produced by a group in Warsaw. It's all in Polish except for a one-page summary in English, but that's exciting enough all by itself. They discuss both theory and practice, and seem to be moving forward on coming up with a practical brand of anarchy that can be applied in real life. They're anxious to correspond with anarchists in other countries. (A5-20r)

★★★★★

ANARCHY #24 ($2 from C.A.L., PO Box 1446, Columbia, MO 65205-1446): A newspaper which consistently provides an interesting and up-to-date look at the North American anarchist movement, together with some well-developed (and sometimes idiosyncratic) theoretical analyses. This issue reprints Joe Peacott's revisionist AIDS essay and has a personal report on the Eastern Europe situation from Laure A. There's also more Situationism, long exchanges in the letters column, press reviews, and lots more. (O-36t)

★★★★★

ANDERSON VALLEY ADVERTISER Vol. 38 #6-7 ($27/yr from PO Box 459, Boonville, CA 95415): A weekly newspaper from Mendocino County that's fiercely independent. It can always be counted on to have some interesting local politics, whether it's the publisher's legal battles, the war on drugs, or the stresses surrounding logging. I enjoy dipping into their local color. (T-10t)

★★★★★

ANGLOFILE Vol. 2 #5 ($2 from PO Box 33515, Decatur, GA 30033): A slick look at all the latest news from the British media. This time they chat with Leo ("Rumpole") McKern and Peter Davison, and profile the Yardbirds. As always, there are tons of notes on what's going on in TV, the movies, and music. (S-12t)

★★★★★

ANICHTI POLI #21 ($2 or so from PO Box 20037, GR-11810, Athens, GREECE): Peace, love and Greek language. This issue runs from Genesis P-Orridge to Murray Bookchin, with lots of classic counterculture graphics thrown in. Too bad there's not an English edition; it looks pretty nifty, reminding me of the Yippie paper **OVERTHROW**. (S-32)

★★★★★

THE ANIMALS' AGENDA Vol. X #2 ($22/yr from PO Box 6809, Syracuse, NY 13217): With this issue this animal rights magazine has switched to desktop publishing: a boon for the organization's budget, a bane for graphic design and readability. But the contents are as good as ever: rodeos and the political theory of animal rights come in for much examination, and there are hundreds of short news bits as well. Neal Barnard discusses possible gaps in a vegan diet (he says take B-12 supplements), and there's an encouraging article on bankrupt furriers. (S-60t)

★★★★★

☐**THE ANTI-PROHIBITIONIST REVIEW #1** ($20/yr from IAL, 97 Rue Belliard, Re, 512, 1040 Brussels, BELGIUM): The newsletter of the new International Anti-Prohibitionist League, a group of lawyers, journalists, doctors and others who oppose prohibition of the use and circulation of certain drugs. They call for decriminalization and legalization, with an associated regulatory apparatus. High-caliber reasoned writing. (A4-12t)

★★★★★

ABOUT APAS

"Apa" stands for "Amateur Press Association". Think of them as cocktail parties in print. Every apa has a central person who does the assembling and mailing of each issue, Members write whatever they want, make an agreed-upon number of copies, and send them to this person, who then collates the individual submissions into sets which are stapled together as the final apa. Costs are covered by each member paying for their own printing and postage. Many apas will sell you a sample copy so you can get a fell for their flavor and interests, but the bottom line is that this is participatory publishing, so if you aren't interested in contributing don't bother to get in touch. Although there are hundreds of apas, most won't trade with other zines, which is why I only list a dozen or so.

★★★★★

APA-EROS #24 ($2 from John & Kathe Burt, 960 SW Jefferson Ave., Corvallis, OR 97333): A place for frank discussion of sex and relationships between a lot of mostly-pseudonymous folks. Some print stories of past exploits, others try to analyze the attraction of things like anal sex, others supply comments in cartoon form. The steam level here is generally pretty high. (D-32t)

★★★★★

APA-TAROT #49-50 (Contact Sheila Wild(th)ing, 17645 Via Sereno, Monte Sereno, CA 95030): This is one of the more active and prettier apas that I see regularly. The latter factor has something to do with the subject matter: Tarot cards. There are both readers and collectors here, earnestly discussing their fascintion and displaying copies of unique or interesting cards. (S-134)

★★★★★

APATHEIST JOURNAL #5 (SASE from PO Box 2143, Stow, OH 44224): This one is "For those of us that have better things to do than debate the eternal questions". This issue features a list of short apatheist slogans, such as "God is Boring" and "Intelligence is Overrated". You can also get an Apatheist Affirmation Card by sending an SASE and asking for one. (S-1t)

★★★★★

APEC NEWS #42 (Donation from APEC, 114 Court St., Abingdon, VA 24210): The newsletter of the Appalachian Peace Education Center. This issue focuses on "Making Peace With Earth", with lots of depressing news about landfills, stripmines, disappearing parks, logging, and so on. There are also a few rays of hope, people to contact, and a list of environmental groups in the area. (S-12)

★★★★★

APPALACHIAN EARTH FIRST! Brigid 1990 ($1 from PO Box 309, Nellysford, VA 22958): This is a regional Earth First! publication for environmental activists living in the Appalachians. They report on lots of doings in their neck of the woods, both on the part of their friends and on the part of the "land rapers". Victories and defeats rub elbows here, but the future is where the focus is. (S-6t)

★★★★★

APPARITIONS OF THE FUTURE #3 ($1 from 1107 Prospect Ave., Bristol, VA 24201): A sort of punk literary zine, with some musical content (notably some news on the Damned) but much else besides. The latter includes a booklet of "White Boy" poems and a historical account of a vampire's coffin, as well as short poetry and tour reviews. (S-5r)

★★★★★

☐**APPLIANCE SERVICE NEWS** Feb. 19990 ($$11.25/yr from Gamit Enterprises, PO Box 789, Lombard, IL 60148): It's not really a fanzine,

but I had to mention this, if only to show there really is reading matter for any interest. This one, of course, is for people who repair washers, dryers, microwaves and sundry other appliances. There are some interesting bits, like the designs for futuristic toasters we may see someday. (T-20t)

★★★★★

AQUARIAN ALTERNATIVES #169 ($12/12 issues from Aquarian Research Foundation, 5620 Morton St., Philadelphia, PA 19144): Art Rosenblum is the guiding light here, writing most of this newsletter about community, homelessness and the need to abolish the military. He has extensive contacts with the traditional side of the community movement in this country (religious groups, mostly) and is eager to find ways to extend this model to solving new problems. Impressively forthright. (S-8)

★★★★★

□**ARROWS OF DESIRE** #2-3 (The Usual from S.V. O'Jay, PO Box 29, HITCHIN, Herts, SG4 9TG, UK): A science fiction zine with a strong leaning towards rock and roll. They feature "rock and roll stories", short bits made to be read while listening to specific pieces of music. #2 also features a big section of SF fan light bulb jokes, while #3 has ruminations on love, like, and lust. (A4-40)

★★★★★

ART

DAH JILT #3 ($1.50 from Terrence Brannon, PO Box 87128, Atlanta, GA 30337): This magazine basically gets the editorial stance out of the way and lets artists have the space to display their works. Steve Cerio and Jim Franklin both have strong work in this issue. There's also a couple pages on mail art, with notes on where to make contacts. (T-12t)

★★★★★

ART-CORE! 2/90 ($1 & Age Statement from PO Box 49324, Austin, TX 78765): A collection of erotic drawings, poems and stories, together with other bits of art. Actually, some of this crosses the line from erotic to just plain raunchy or disturbing: bondage pictures, strange collages, obsessive poetry. But some of it is gentle and relaxed. Quite a wide mix. (S-40)

★★★★★

ART:MAG VII ($2.50 from Peter Magliocco, 5055 E. Charleston F110, Las Vegas, NV 89104): A litmag with a colorful hand-drawn cover. Inside are a bunch of poems flanked by a couple of short stories, all reproduced from their original typescript. They range from Tristan MacAvery's downbeat "Wall/Flower" to one of Steve Richmond's handwritten poetry notebooks. (D-44r)

★★★★★

ARTPAPER Vol. 9 #6-7 ($20/yr from 119 N. 4th St. #303, Minneapolis, MN 55401): These folks start from local art and culture, but branch out from there, attracting some of the best writers in the marginals. For example, in #6 Bob Black reports on a recent exhibition of Situationist holy relics, while Peter Lamborn Wilson examines the connections between art and chaos. They also feature the usual show and gallery reviews and schedules. (T-28t)

★★★★★

□**ART PAPERS** Vol. 14 #2 ($4.50 from Redwing Blackbird, PO Box 2042, Decatur, GA 30031-2042): The bulk of this one is made up of reviews of shows and works across the Southeast. However, of perhaps more interest to zinesters is the special section on "Noise Culture", by which they encompass most of the level of work we deal with in FF. In includes reviews by Bill Withers, an overview from Alan Sondheim, and works from Liz Was, Miekal And, Tom Jennings, Geoff Dugan, Stewart Home and other familiar names. Some of this material is in a separate pull-out tabloid supplement. (O-68t)

★★★★★

□**ARTPARTY** #1 ($20/4 issues from Blue Horizon Publishers, PO Box 10118, Minneapolis, MN 55458): A new literary quarterly that's aiming for work which is fresh and perhaps a bit different. They print a mix of poetry, prose and photos in the first issue, with David Olshanski's story "The Ferris Wheel" being the best of the lot, a surreal adventure through society and psyche. The first chapter of Sara Broeker's detective novel looks promising too. (S-24)

★★★★★

ASH #3 ($1 from David R. Wyder, 121 Gregory Ave. #B-7, Passaic, NJ 07055): A collection of written and drawn works, mostly poetry this time. This issue is "the Sex-Erotica Issue", with hot works from the likes of Juan E. Wadd, Dan Adams, Paul Weinman and Sigmund Weiss. A mix of the sacred and the profane. (S-18)

★★★★★

ASPECTS #3-4 ($2/2 issues from Steve Polsz, 5507 Regent St., Philadelphia, PA 19143): A collection of metaphysics and other esoteric explorations, conducted at a fairly basic and open level. Topics in these two issues include the meaning of life, meditation, Fuller's whirligig, gematria, and the tree of life. (S-18)

★★★★★

ASTROSTARTALK Vol. 6 #2-Vol. 7 #1 ($9.95/6 issues from Matrix Software, 315 Marion Ave., Big Rapids, MI 49307): A magazine for the professional astrologer. Matrix is a company that makes a variety of astrological software, so much of the space here is taken up by their products. But they also track the state of the field and interview serious astrological researchers. Some intriguing stuff here. (S-12t)

★★★★★

ASYLUM Vol. 5 #4 ($10/4 issues from Greg Boyd, PO Box 6203, Santa Maria, CA 93456): A small litmag that continues to maintain high standards and offer a good selection of experimental and otherwise works. Highlights include Lee Nelson's "Walter's Stomach", which gradually recedes from news to fantasy, Kirby Olson's interview with Andrei Codrescu, and David Oates poetic view of the apocalypse. (D-48t)

★★★★★

ASYNJUR Vol. 3 #2 ($2.50 from PO Box 567, Granville, OH 43023): If you feel attracted by the old Teutonic religions, but you're wary of the political connections of some modern practitioners, this is a good place to start. The folks at ASYNJUR are explicitly non-racist and non-sexist. Articles in this issue look at rune casting and at the old Teutonic cosmology; they also print short stories and retellings of myths. (D-28)

★★★★★

THE ATROCITY Vol. 14 #2-3 ($8/12 issues from 2419 Greensburg Pike, Pittsburgh, PA 15221): A humorous and/or offensive Mensa SIG publication that is one of the primary roosting grounds for office humor in this country,. There seem to be more computer jokes than usual in #2, along with ethnic slurs, silly stories, and smartass calligraphy. (S-16r)

★★★★★

□**AURAL AUGASM** #7 ($2 from 90 Chiswick Lane, Chiswick, London W4, UK): A collection of material from the margins of society. There are a few music reviews, ideas for pranks to play on people and people who deserve to have them played, contact addresses for bizarre groups, and a reprinted Peter Sotos interview. Altered advertisements abound, and sexually-distressing pictures dress up quite a few pages. (A5-32r)

★★★★★

THE AUSTRALIAN EXPATRIATE Vol. 1 #3 ($2.50 from 3809 Plaza Dr. #107-307, Oceanside, CA 92056): This is a magazine for Australians living in the United States—or for Australiphiles. It looks at things on both sides of the Pacific, from advice on buying a car in the US to a short history of Australian wine in #3. Economy, legal questions, crossword puzzles and profiles of celebrities are among the other features. (O-24t)

★★★★★

□**AVALOKA** Vol. IV #1/2 ($9/yr from 249 Maynard NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504): "A Journal of Traditional Religion and Culture", this one draws on an eclectic variety of sources, many presented here in their first English translation—although the editors caution that students should only try to practice one path. Novalis gets a few pages here, as does Eiddo Shimano Roshi's presentation of Rinsai Zen, James Cowan on Australian totems, and some words from the 14th Dalai Lama. It's all presented in a scholarly fashion with footnotes and references. (D-72t)

★★★★★

BABEL #16 ($1 from 605 13th, Knoxville, TN 37916): A consistently-interesting magazine of xerographic experimentation, put out by four guys from Knoxville. Some of these pages are altered with post-copier manipulations, but most are just as they came out of the machines. besides the usual collages and cartoons, they're especially good at texture-based pieces. (S-18)

★★★★★

BABYFISH #3 ($3 cash/postal MO from Andy Sunfrog, PO Box 11589, Detroit, MI 11589): A wild zine of radical alternatives from Detroit's Cass Corridor neighborhood: anarchy, music, homocore, anti-nuke actions, food co-ops (hey, *I* wrote that part!), photos, poetry, feminism, and much more. It's a mix of different color paper and different typewriters and gives a great impression of being the tip of a vibrant living movement for freedom and love. (S-80)

★★★★★

BABY SUE Vol. 2 #3 ($2 from PO Box 1111, Decatur, GA 30031-1111): Nasty-minded humor centered, in this issue, around "Recipes for the 90s"—everything from turd sandwiches to Ted Bundy's favorites. The title comic character makes one appearance to announce her repentance—can this be for real? I guess we'll have to wait for the next issue to find out. (D-20r)

★★★★★

BACKWOODS HOME MAGAZINE #3 ($9.95/yr from PO Box 1624, Ventura, CA 93002): A wide-ranging magazine for folks who want to move out of the cities and are looking for how-to information. In this issue they have the basics of buying horses, laying foundations, canning meat, insulating a house, and more. Recipes, games for the kids and short stories break up the hands-on articles. (S-56t)

★★★★★

THE BAG #33 (SASE & a personal note from Buddah Worthmore, 28313 58th Ave., Paw Paw, MI 49079): All you ever needed to know about living may be in this collection of rants and raves, but you'll have to hunt to find it. A comparison of the music of Melanie and Joni Mitchell, Ern commercials, the state of the economy, and VW pictures are some of the goodies in this issue. Who knows what drives this sort of thing? (S-4r)

★★★★★

BAHLASTI PAPERS Vol. IV #v-viii ($2 [checks to CASH] from Kali Lodge, Ordo Templi Orientis, PO Box 15038, New Orleans, LA 70115): A strange little journal of Thelemic magick and associated paths. Sometimes they get a little weird, as in the article this time on "Yogurt and the Qabalah". They also run notes on Enochian visions and other pathworkings, print news about obscure groups, and generally mess around with their readers' heads. (S-12t)

★★★★★

BALCONY OF IGNORANCE #7 (50¢ from Claude Bottom, 55A Centennial St., Seabrook, NH 03874): A collection of stuff from the edges of underground culture. Claude has been publishing lists of record vinyl messages and now wants notes on songs with abnormal endings. There's also the crudely drawn "Spot the Wonder Dog" comic and bits of stuff from weird "mainstream" media. (HL-12r)

★★★★★

BALLOT ACCESS NEWS Vol. 5 #9 ($6/yr from 3201 Baker St., San Francisco, CA 94123): Under the sponsorship of the Coalition for Free and Open Elections, BAN tracks the progress of various third parties towards getting their nominees on various election ballots. They also report on changes to petition qualifying laws as they happen. (S-6t)

★★★★★

BASEBALL DIARY Vol. VIII #3 ($15/season from 3042 6th Ave., Sancramento, CA 95817): A selection of writing and art that revolves around the sport of baseball, but occasionally gets pretty far afield. This issue has several bits of earthquake reporting sparked by the abortive attempt at a world series, plus poetry and Tony Hoffman's reflection on aging without being famous. (S-11)

★★★★★

□**THE BEACON** Vol. 7 #4 ($15/4 issues from GLLKA, PO Box 580, Allen Park, MI 48101): The initials stand for Great Lakes Lighthouse Keepers Association, and this fascinating and well-done magazine is all about lighthouses and life therein. They print everything from reminiscences about isolated lighthouse life to stories about modern solar-powered stations. I especially enjoyed Donald Nelson's discussion of the nuisances that foghorns used to be. (S-16)

★★★★★

BEATRIX #2 ($1 from PO Box 135, Schenectady, NY 12301): A local zine of collage, ranting, gun show reviews, White Boy poetry, and who knows what else. Much of the contents originated with the conspiracy media, but it's all been blenderized together and altered to put the stamp of the underground on it. Looking for more creative deranged minds to contribute. (HL-16)

★★★★★

□**BELAU UPDATE** #17-18 (Donation from Charles Scheiner, PO Box 1182, White Plains, NY 10602): A newsletter which tracks events in the Pacific republic of Belau. Its constitution bans nukes, and the US military doesn't like it, so over the years we have been pressuring them big time to change their mind. But so far they're holding out against the US, and asking the UN to make us fulfill previous trustee obligations. No-nonsense sympathetic reporting. (S08t)

★★★★★

BENT #4 ($1 & Age Statement from Cellar Productions, 11 Werner Rd., Greenville, PA 16125): A collage of images from supermarket tabloids and other forms of mass media, with bits of clipping stuck in between the pages. Mostly they pick out alienating stories and photos to run, and create a massive, depressing picture of the world. (D-8)

★★★★★

□**BESIDES** #1 (SASE (?) from Ross Best, 2112 New Hampshire NW #805, Washington, DC 20009): A two-page newsletter of, well, nothing in particular., Ross reprints the intro to a song he liked, a letter from the editor of **THE QUARTERLY** and a small poem. There are also a couple of essays or rants on what it's like to be President. Very strange. (S-2t)

★★★★★

BETWEEN THE LINES Vol. 2 #1 ($10/yr from Sacramento Peace Center, 1917A 16th St., Sacramento, CA 95814): Other social justice groups could learn a lesson from this co-op newsletter: it's put out by a bunch of social justice groups, each responsible for their own page, with general material in front. The fight against Operation Rescue and their collaborators, the cops, is the big story in this issue. (T-16t)

★★★★★

□**BETWEEN THE ROPES** Vol. 1 #10-13 ($1 from Adam Horowitz, 336 Harbor Dr., Lido Beach, NY 11561): A wrestling bulletin put out on computer with lousy dot-matrix type and cheesy clip art—but once you get past the appearance, it's pretty fun to read. Horowitz and fellow editor Brad Burns are fans of the sport, but they're sort of realistic too, and their discussions of overall things, from matches to promoter's tricks, are informed and informative. Pretty light-hearted but still knowledgeable. (S-10)

★★★★★

BIG DICK WORSHIP #4 -5($1.25 from PO Box 270247, Lasalle St., West Hartford, CT 06107): A rude, crude, freewheeling and funny magazine from a bunch of young feminists. They talk about sex (and yes, their title is a double entendre—ol' Nixon shows up on every cover), print an advice column, and feature various stories and poems with not too hidden messages. #4 came with plastic glasses and a sample of cologne. #5 is the final issue; I don't know whether back issues are still available. (S-32)

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☐**BIG DUCK WORSHIP** #1 (SASE from PO Box 270247, Lasalle St., W. Hartford, CT 06107): A new zine for children from the editor of the above. Actually, you might not want your kids to see this; the suggestions on things to do when bored are enough to drive any mother crazy, and the coloring page is ever so slightly salacious. I *think* this is probably a joke. (D-8)

★★★★★

☐**BIG FOREHEAD EXPRESS** Vol. 1 #1 ($1 from Incite Information, PO Box 17406, Arlington, VA 22216): A new journal of commentary on the news, pulling together notes from a variety of published sources to see what your evening sound bite has been missing., This [premiere issue includes notes on Panama, on game-fixing in the NFL, human rights in Egypt, racism in the PGA,and more. Well-=done and with sources listed for those who want to follow up. (D-16t)

★★★★★

☐**BIMBOX** (Contact 282 Parliament St. #68, Toronto, ONT M5A 2X4, CANADA): They say it's free, but only "to certain people" so better write if you think you're one of them. The target audience seems to be gays and lesbians who are completely fed up with both straight society and the gay and lesbian power structure that keeps the alternatives from being exciting and flamboyant. Collages, sex stories, a Nancy Sinatra discography, tampon ads, ranting and raving distinguish this issue. (HL-64)

★★★★★

☐**BIOLA'S MOMENTS IN THE WORLD** Jan. 1990 (On Request from Biola University, 13800 Biola Ave., La Mirada, CA 90639): A daily devotional guide for the practicing Christian, this features passages from Biola's radio ministry and an order blank for the cassette tapes that go with them. One indication of their worldview is that it takes the 42 tapes to discuss the Book of Revelations, but only 20 to get through Matthew. (D-32t)

★★★★★

BLACK EYE #8 ($1.50 from 339 Lafayette St. #2, New York, NY 10012): A collection of writings by anarchists, most form New York City. These range from reportage on the '89 anarchist gathering to a chewy piece on affinity group organizing. Bob Black weighs in with an indictment of Stewart Home's recent book on the Sits and other art-political types; Hakim Bey talks about weird religion; and other goodies pop up unexpectedly. (D-40r)

★★★★★

☐**BLACKWORLD** Vol. XXI #2 ($1 (?) from Central Hall Rm. 031, SUNY Stony Brook, NY 11794): A student-run tabloid from the State University at Stony Brook, written by and for black students. They cover political news from the Black Panthers (Bobby Seale recently spoke on campus) to South Africa and the Coke boycott. There's also a section for reviews, poetry, and other creative arts. (T-20r)

★★★★★

BLIP #125-127 ($1 from Joe and Oka Kempe, PO Box 74, Nokomis, IL 62075) This "Brave Little Impossible Publication" is a forum for humor in a rather traditional vein, designed to bring chuckles instead of gasps. Joe writes most of it, some with old jokes, some with new (or at least recycled) ones. There's also a few pages on the local baseball museum, anagrams, verse and sidelights from history in each issue. (D-40t)

★★★★★

BLOODLINES Vol. 2 ($6.50 from ROCC, Rt. 4 Box 18, Lexington, MS 39095): This is the second volume of oral history put out by 8th and 9th graders int he summer program of the Rural Organizing and Cultural Center, and it's as impressive as their first one. This time they have interviewed a bunch of people about the Civil Rights Movement in Holmes Country, how it succeeded, at least to some extent, despite violent opposition, and its long-term results. Well worth buying and reading, and ROCC seems to be a group well worth supporting. (S-85t)

★★★★★

☐**THE BLOOD REVIEW** Vol. 1 #2 ($25/4 issues from Ruben Sosa Villegas, PO Box 4394, Denver, CO 80204-9998): "The Journal of Horror Criticism" actually contains a good deal else, notably news of the profession and interviews with writers (not to say that the reviews are slighted, though!). This time there are articles on Robert Bloch, Wes Craven, and a biography of Rod Serling. There's also a whole section on women in the field, plus poetry, a lovely wraparound cover, and even some fiction. Pretty impressive. (S-92t)

★★★★★

BLOOD TIMES #12/13 ($10/5 issues from Louis Paul, 44 E. 5th St., Brooklyn, NY 11218): A filmzine that depends on longish essays rather than short reviews for the bulk of its contents. This issue looks at the strange stfnal *Quartermass* films as well as the erotic works of Jess Franco. Mexican vampire movies and other zines also feature. (S-14)

★★★★★

BLUEPRINT FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE Vol. XLIII #6-7 (Donation from Loyola IHR, Loyola University, Box 12, New Orleans, LA 70118): A monthly series of essays on pressing social problems and concerns. #6 looks at recycling and other ways to cut our impact on the environment. #7 surveys the current state of alternatives to jail sentences for criminals. (S-8t)

★★★★★

B METANEWS #5-6 (50¢ & SASE from PO Box 70612, Washington, DC 20024): A medley of all sorts of things, from complaints about clubs closing their doors to punks to Monty Python poetry. #5 has some little-known drug wars news; #6 has the Freedom of Information Act and a cautionary tale about population increase. (S-4t)

★★★★★

BOBWORLD Vol. 1 #2 ($1 (?) from 1001 Belvidere Rd., Phillipsburg, NJ 08865): A collection of personal notes and silly humor from the editor, who oddly enough is named Bob. He includes suggestions for making golf a more interesting game, a personal story about hazardous hang gliding, and a silly piece of tongue in cheek ad copy. May be looking for submissions, if you have humorous bits of writing about. (S-6)

★★★★★

BOING BOING #2 ($3 *CASH* from PO Box 12311, Boulder, CO 80303): A journal for neophiles and others excited by high tech and neat things to do with your brain. This issue includes reports on meditation tapes and brain machines, plus an article by Antero Alli on furniture addiction. There are silly cartoons, LSD biographies, and reviews of weird zines. There's a far-out universe there waiting to be discovered. (D-40t)

★★★★★

BOOKS ARE EVERYTHING #11-12 ($5 from R.C. & Elwanda Holland, 302 Martin Dr., Richmond, KY 40475): A fat zine for the collector of vintage paperback books. There are lots of loving bibliographies in every issue, like the listing of cover art by James Bama (who, it turns out, did lots of covers I really like) in #11. #12 has an article on the original Pocket Books that started it all and some thoughts for new collectors. They talk about cataloging and prices and the future course of the field and seem very knowledgeable. (S-56)

★★★★★

BORDER WATCH March 1990 ($1/4 copies from American Immigration Control Foundation, PO Box 525, Monterey, VA 24465): The AICF is interested in beefing up the Border patrol and US law to stem illegal immigration into this country. To this end, they focus mainly on social ills caused by illegals, giving much play to drugs and crime. They also report on government actions that favor aliens. (S-8t)

★★★★★

THE BRAIN CENTER NEWSLETTER #5 ($5/yr from PO Box 795, Berkeley, CA 94701): The Brain Center is an informal group which arranges lectures on "new ideas in the sciences", and the newsletter lists their upcoming programs. These range from a talk by Poul Anderson on writing SF to a discussion of the "Too Many Aptitudes Problem". (S-4t)

★★★★★

☐**BRAINDOZER** #4 ($1 (?) from Colin Hayes, 2819 1st #240, Seattle, WA 98121): A collection of xerographic art and confusing experioddical texts. The emphasis seems to be on relationships, politics, learning and the other superstructures of life. Little bits of technopoetry swirl past chopped up supermarket tabloids. (D-20t)

★★★★★

□**THE BRIDGE** #1-2 ($10/yr from William Boston, Military Counseling Network, c/o JH-Mitte, Kublerstr. 4, 7032 Sindelfingen, WEST GERMANY): This is a bilingual paper directed at US servicemen stationed in Germany, sponsored by the Central Committee for Conscientious Objectors. They cover CO cases, evidence of prejudice and lies on the part of military recruiters and (in #2) the amazing amount of damage done by US wargames in Germany. In the States, you may be able to get copies faster from CCCO (2208 South St., Philadelphia, PA 19146). (T-16t)

★★★★★

BRIMSTONE Vol. I #IV ($5 from 231 Kennedy Dr., Box 130, Malden, MA 02148): A Satanist/Left Hand Path zine that's striking off in its own direction. This issue starts with an attack on Anton Szandor LaVey and his version of Satanism, and proceeds to some ideas on how to implement Satanism in your own life, including speculation on links with feminism and Situationism. They also feature letters from other left hand folks and various commentary on today's world. (S-36)

★★★★★

□**BROKEN HAMMER** #1-2 (50¢ from 1211 Mill St., Eugene, OR 97401): A small zine of collage, drawings and words which seem to come from a rather disturbed mind. The sexism here is the least of the disturbances, with incest, murder and so on getting cheered for. Offensive images collected from all over the place. (M-24)

★★★★★

BUG #3 ("2p. (or exchange)" from Bob Bug, 46 Denbigh St., London SW1, ENGLAND): This single-sheeter sports a rather British sense of humor which, considering its point of origin, is hardly a surprise. It's a mix of short uncredited quotes and slightly longer essays, which turn the world from a stolid place to a rather deranged and playful one. (S-2t)

★★★★★

□**A BUG IN MY FRIES MAGAZINE** Vol. 1 #1-2 ($2 from Robert Howington, PO Box 470186, Fort Worth, TX 76147): A new litmag that includes a couple of short reviews (one musical, one book) in the back. The stories in #1 are a bit on the gross side—a murder/suicide, some roaches and a geeky love story. #2 has more reviews, plus some tales of sexual misadventure from a biker. (D-18/S-10)

★★★★★

□**BULLETIN OF ANARCHIST RESEARCH** (£6/4 issues [cash or Sterling checque only] from Tom Cahill, Dept. of Politics, University of Lancaster, Lancaster LA1 4YL, UK): This is a serious journal of anarchy, heavy on book reviews (including several in this issue from Bob Black) and theoretical discussion. I find it fascinating, but it's not a place for starting to find out about the subject; some familiarity with at least the historical big names is presumed. Includes material on subjects as diverse as goddess-worship and the state of the British anarchist press. (A4-40t)

★★★★★

BUT A TWIST OF THE LIP #4 ($2 from Oyester Publications c/o Lainie, 723 N. Highland Ave., Arlington Hts., IL 60004): A collection of reviews (zine, comic and music) collaged together with a bunch of letters. The staff is engaged in all sorts of battles with letter writers over appropriate language and sexual innuendo, and even write notes in each other's reviews, making this a quite interactive collection. (S-48t)

★★★★★

BVI-BLACK COFFEE #7 ($1 from C. Goldberg, PO Box 6248, Albany, NY 12206-0248): A zine of personal wonderment, upset with the world, collage and other goodies. This time C. lists a bunch of deep topics that someone really should do articles about, presents some off-thw-wall clippings fron major media, and talks about waitressing in Albany and Bath Lorraine Schein reports on the state of poetry in England and present a poem of her own. A bit lacking in direction, but still fun to read (D-20r)

★★★★★

BVI-CENTRAL Vol. 8 #9-Vol. 9 #1 ($1 from J. LeRoy, PO Bo 4843, East Lansing, MI 48826-4843): More personal essays, slapstic political humor, and mass transit (the zine is available in trade fo paraphernalia from your local subway system) than you can shak a stick at. J. writes about heavy topics like Pornography or Graduat School in between more adventures in a future where the Presidenc is a mere media creation. Or maybe it's the present... (D-18t)

★★★★★

□**CALGARY STAMPEDE** Vol. 9 #2-Vol. 10 #1 ($10/yr plus $ initiation fee from Calgary Philatelic Society, Box 1478, Sta. M Calgary, Alberta, T2P 2L6, CANADA): A small magazine from group of stamp collectors over in Alberta. Much of the space i these issues is taken up with installments of Dale Speirs' history o the society, which was founded in 1922. Other members write o the joys of collecting or particular things to watch out for such a new postmarks. (D-12r)

★★★★★

CAMPUS REVIEW Vol. 6 #1 ($5/yr from 336 S. Clinton #16 Iowa City, IA 52240): Still conservative, still feisty and still, I a sure, enraging the liberals around the University of Iowa. this studen paper is also still going strong. This issue applauds the invasion o Panama, looks back at HL Mencken, and includes the usua assortment of short quotes, cartoons, and other pointed humor (T-20t)

★★★★★

THE CANADIAN WRESTLING REPORT Vol. 5 #6-7 ($1 fro 15 Penrose Ave., Kitchener, ONT, N2A 1E9, CANADA): Like man another wrestling bulletin, this one reports on recent matches an industry happenings. Unlike the others it covers the various wrestlin leagues in Canada as well as the States and Japan. #6 also include a page with a good listing of other newsletters in the field. In # there's a bit on "Why Publish?"...where have I seen that before (S-8)

★★★★★

CANCER, INC. #4 ($1 from Jamie Hill, 4794 Harris Rd., Syracuse NY 13215): A collage of mass media images, local humor and shee bizarreness. They run from adult diaper ads to White Boy poetry homelessness to Richard Simmons. This may be the final issue, bu it's sort of hard to tell. (S-12)

★★★★★

CAN WE NEWSLETTER #40-41 (Donation from PO Box 2152 Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814-1913): The newsletter of a long-runnin grassroots anti-nuclear group. They are a good source of info fo what's going on around the Hanford reservation, and have bee particularly active in opposing food irradiation. (L-2)

★★★★★

□**CAPITOL COMEDY** Vol. 2 #5 ($53/6 issues from PO Box 25605 Washington, DC 20007-8605): Wall-to-wall jokes and quips suitabl

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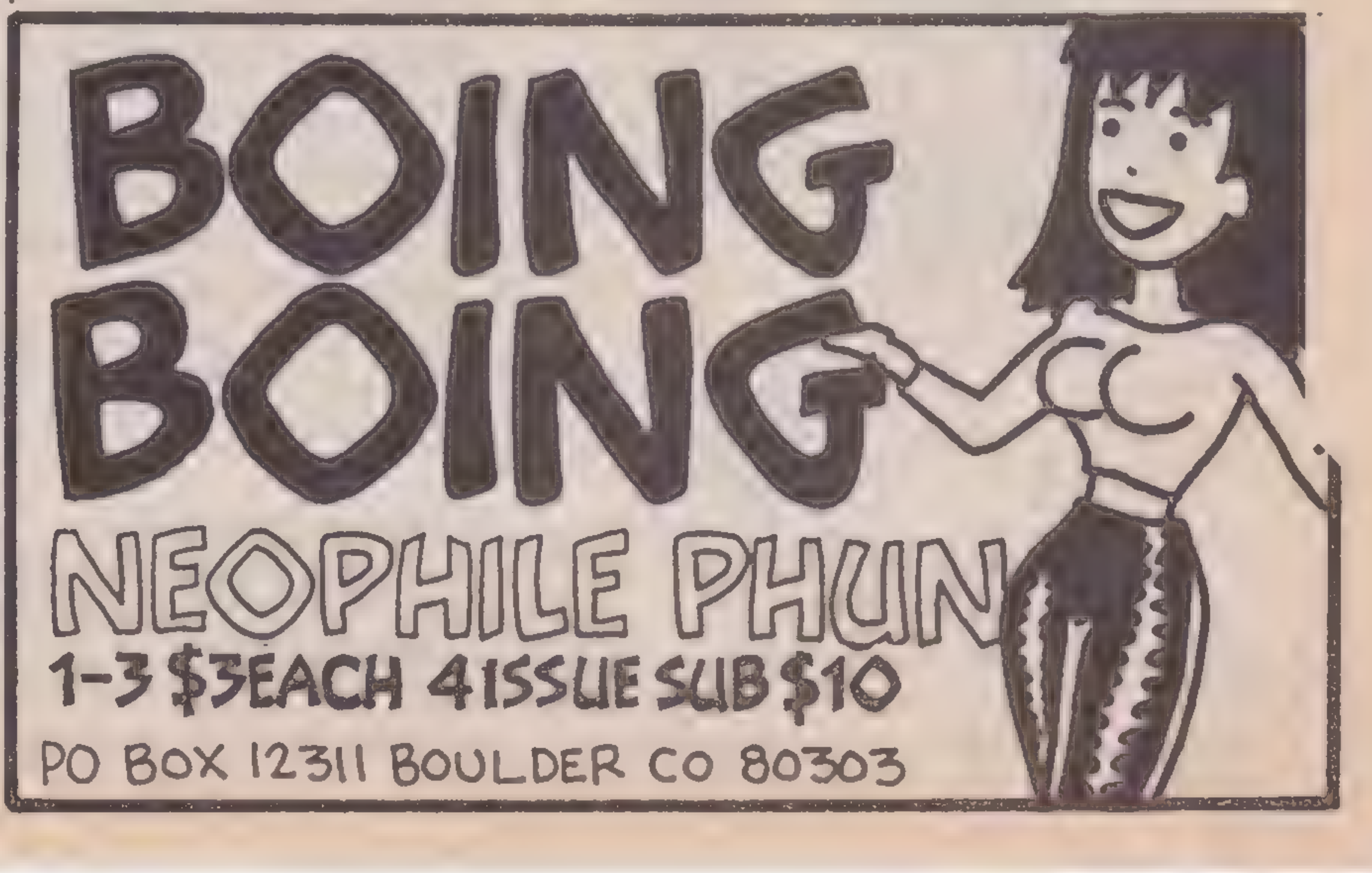

for after-dinner speeches, and mostly with a political slant. A random example: "Dan Quayle received a lot of joking about the misspelled word in his Christmas card. He's been looking for days and he still can't find the word they're talking about." (S-4t)

★★★★★

CAPRA #82 ($2 from Marc C. Reed, PO Box 18293, Milwaukee, WI 53218): The Cinema Amateur Press Association is open to all who wish to talk about movies. This ranges from Ford Rafferty's scholarly consideration of Sinclair Lewis's novels & Hollywood to Anni Ackner and Neil Belsky's delightfully-written zines to 34 pages of reviews and commentary from Dorian Tenore-Bartilucci in #82. Fat & fun. (S-155)

★★★★★

CARIBBEAN NEWSLETTER Vol. 10 #1/2 ($10/yr from Friends For Jamaica, PO Box 20393, Park West Finance Sta., New York, NY 10025): A news roundup from the sea to our south, where there are all sorts of mostly-ignored bits of politics going on. They've done a lot to keep the news flowing from Grenada, and take a few shots at the Panama invasion in this issue as well. (S-12)

★★★★★

THE CARING CONNECTION Vol. 6 #2 (Sample for SASE from Phyllis Burns, 3060 Bridge St. #42, Brighton, CO 80601): A newsletter for the handicapped and those who care for them. They track a variety of legal, medical and social advances, and also provide space for personal expression. There's a nice essay about learning disabilities in #2. (S-6)

★★★★★

□**CARTOON MARKETS** Nov. 1989 ($30/12 issues from Loyal Pallady, 90 W. Winnipeg Ave. #1, St. Paul, MN 55117-5428): This is a marketing co-op for cartoonists and gagwriters, where they come to swap information on who's buying and who's not. Ideas for cartoons and notes on the business end of cartooning are also prominent. This issue features a section on computer magazines that use cartoons with ideas for them. (S-10)

★★★★★

□**CAT TALES** Vol. 5 #1 (SASE (?) from Second Editions, 7951 Babb Ave., Skokie, IL 60077): This one is a bit enigmatic, but as near as I can tell Second Editions is a bookstore with a cat, a feminist staff, and an interest in mystery and SF and fantasy, at the least. They talk about books here—mostly new ones, as well as some classics, with notes on new stock and the industry in general. Relaxing and friendly. (S-4t)

★★★★★

CCCO NEWS NOTES Vol. 41 #3 ($5/yr from 2208 South St., Philadelphia, PA 19146): Thought it was about time to mention this old stalwart again, still publishing after more than 40 years of resisting war and war preparations. They're one of the few groups left still mounting a challenge to the odious Solomon Amendments. They also track military and especially draft news from around the world. (S-16t)

★★★★★

CENSORSHIP NEWS #33 (Donation from 2 W. 64th St., New York, NY 10023): These folks keep track of all the various attempts at censorship in this country, and fight against them. Saddest story in this issue: the FBI investigated librarians who protested the FBI attempt to have librarians fink on Soviet readers, on the grounds that the librarians might be Soviet dupes. They also cover flag-burning, Wildmon's antics, and **THE LORAX**, among other tidbits. (S-8)

★★★★★

CFRA REPORT #82 ($20/yr from Bob Kirlin, East 7609 Marietta, Spokane, WA 99212): Do you like football? Trivia? History? Statistics? Then this, the newsletter of the College Football Researchers Association, is for you. Each issue is filled with discussion and argument over football from the beginning until now, hat teams were best, what players, did, who played who and more. (S-20)

★★★★★

□**CHALLENGE** Vol. 26 #12-13 ($5/6 months from GPO Box 808, Brooklyn, NY 11202): Organ of the Progressive Labor Party, an internationalist communist group which devotes much of its energy towards agitating among minority races. Most of this issue (which came out in August) is devoted to the Pittson strike, though, with photos of PLPers and the few union folks they could get to pose with them. Includes a Spanish-language section on the backside. (T-36t)

★★★★★

□**CHAMPAGNE HORROR** 1990 ($6.95 from #265-919C Albert St., Regina, SASK, S4R 2P7, CANADA): An annual magazine of macabre fiction, poetry, and artwork. The selection is good and tends to brief stories and cheerfully gross poetry like Jeannette Hopper's "Sickeningly Sweet". On the story side, try Michael McPherson's "Silent Partner" or John-Ivan Palmer's "Shopping at the Cote d'Azur". Artwork Horvath Akos and Kurt Cagle deserves a mention as well. Not the most flashy horror pub around, but a solid one. (S-60)

★★★★★

□**THE CHAOS NETWORK** Vol. 2 #1 (On request from People Technologies, 200 Lincoln Sq., PO Box 4007, Urbana, IL 61801): A newsletter for folks interested in chaos theory and other "complex systems research" as it applies to organizational and human behavior. They include reviews of books in the field, notices of meetings and events, and feature articles—this time on "Mapping Dynamical Behavior in Organizations". I can't pronounce on the respectability of the work here, but there does seem to be a community of scholars building up rapidly. (S-8)

★★★★★

CHAOTIC WORLD NEWS & OLDS #24 ($1 from TESC, Building D Room 106, Olympia, WA 98505): A zine of fringe religion and fringe culture. There's a letter from Bob Black fingering the Mad Bomber, a couple of serialized stories, notes on holding a Cthulhoid ritual, and marginalia galore. A bit confusing, but then isn't everything? (S-24)

★★★★★

□**CHECKPOINT** Vol. 1 #2 ($5/4 issues from PO Box 124, Sta. F, Buffalo, NY 14212): "The Independent Watchdog of the Buffalo News",

A.B.O.S.
Gaither 1989

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this is sort of a local equivalent to **EXTRA** for pointing out the conservative imbalance in news coverage. Most of this issue looks at the handling of the Panama invasion, and finds it severely wanting. (S-8)

★★★★★

CHILDREN OF THE EARTH MOTHER NEWS Imbolc 1990 ($1.75 from PO Box 1652, Bethany, OK 73008): A networking pagan journal that runs mostly to articles, though there is some contact and calendar material as well. Try Christopher Manes' ecologically-influenced "Paganism as Resistance" or the how-to article on scrying in this issue as examples. (S-20)

★★★★★

□**CHINESE AMERICAN FORUM** Vol. 5 #1 ($12/4 issues from PO Box 4487, Silver Spring, MD 20904): Aimed at US citizens and permanent residents "with Chinese American bicultural heritage or interest", this one is a serious journal. Coming out at the tail end of '89, this issue has several pieces on the Tianenman Square massacre. But there are also notes on classical Chinese drama, first person accounts of growing up, and essays on the Sino-Japanese War. (S-36t)

★★★★★

CHOICES #5 (50¢ from Lydia Brooks, 11439A Ptarmigan Dr., Austin, TX 78758): A single short story in minizine format. It's called "Sense of Touch" and interweaves fantasy with a sense of harsh reality in the life of a young mother. (M-8)

★★★★★

□**CLASS-STRUGGLE DEFENSE NOTES** #12 ($1 from PDC, PO Box 99, Canal St. Sta., New York, NY 10013): Published by an arm of the Spartacist League, this one demands justice for all the folks they see as victims of the class struggle. In addition to current battles (like that of the Resistance Conspiracy) they haven't forgotten MOVE—or the Black Panthers, for that matter. I'd take them with a grain of salt, but there is lots here you'll never read in your hometown paper. (S-24t)

★★★★★

COALITION FOR PRISONERS' RIGHTS NEWSLETTER Vol. 15 #1-2 (Donation from PO Box 1911, Sana Fe, NM 87501): Prison news from all over the country, but focused on the Southwest. In #1 they report on a study that shows roughly 12% of New Mexico's prison population is black, even though only 2% of the state's population is black. They also print lots of letters from prisoners fighting for their rights. (HL-8)

★★★★★

□**COHERENT RADIATIONS** (SASE from 1117 Ferris Dr., Novato, CA 94945-1721): A single sheet of arts and stuff. The front side plugs an exhibition of the works of Frank Lloyd Wright. The back is a strange sort of rasta/Course in Miracles sermon. (S-2t)

★★★★★

COLLINWOOD REVISITED #12-13 ($2 from Bruce Yarbor, 2306 N. MacArthur, Oklahoma City, OK 73127): A publication for fans of Dark Shadows in all its various forms. Bruce gives synopses of the paperbacks and comic books, and other writers are busy presenting new stories. #12 focuses largely on the character of Angelique, including photos and a crossword. #13 is a comedy issue, including bloopers and crossover stories, such as the one with the new Star Trek characters involved. (S-36)

★★★★★

COLTSFOOT Vol. XI #1 ($10/6 issues from James Troy, Box 313A, Shipman, VA 22971): A journal of wild plants and their uses. This issue leads off with gingko, including instructions on scavenging for gingko nuts in Central Park. Later on there are medicinal uses for plants as diverse as garlic and milk thistle, plus an interesting assortment of letters and book reviews. A good source for more sources. (D-24r)

★★★★★

COMBAT SPORTS #119 ($2 from PO Box 651, Gracie Sta., New York, NY 10028-0011): CS covers both pro wrestling and the various banked track sports now enjoying a comeback. Editor Mike O'Hara has a chatty style that gets across news tidbits while keeping the columns flowing freely. He also has a good stock of wrestling memorabilia, from "action figures" (we used to call them dolls) to audio tapes to old magazines available in these pages. (S-16)

★★★★★

COMBAT SPORTS*GRAM Vol. 1 #17-24 (60¢ from PO Box 651, Gracie Sta., New York, NY 10028-0011): Fast-breaking wrestling news in a one-page no-frills format. Mostly it's reports on the winners and losers of various matches, with a bit of industry gossip as well. (S-1)

★★★★★

□**COME TOGETHER** #1 (Jean-Emmanuel DeBois, 9 Rue Marquis, 76100 Rouen, FRANCE): An experimental art zine which seems to owe things to both Situationism and Plagiarism, judging by their recycling of imagery. There is quite a bit of text here, all in French, as well as comics, detourned mainstream works, and more. (A4-28)

★★★★★

□**COMING SOON** #1-3 ($1 from Scott Mitchell, 485 Allen, Clawson, MI 48017): Two collections of ads for movies from the past. The theme of #1 [now sold out] is "Sleaze & Tease"; #2 is devoted to "Classic Horror". #3, by contrast, looks at "Not So Classic Horror". Scott puts together a dozen or two ads in each issue, without commentary, and including both well-known films and others I at least have never heard of. (D-12)

★★★★★

□**COMMON GROUND** Vol. IV #1 (Donation from 1017 Abington Pike, Richmond, IN 47374): A magazine of social justice concerns from Common Ground Center for Non-Violence. Their focus in this issue is on strong black women fighting for dignity and better lives for themselves and others, and they've got a pile of inspiring stories starting decades ago and running into the present. Lots here to cheer for. (S-52)

★★★★★

□**THE COMMON HOME MESSENGER** #1 ($10/9 issues from The Common Home Party, RR1, Box 160, Payson, IL 62360): Published by Jared Scarborough (formerly of **TREETOP PANORAMA**) this is your opportunity to participate in shaping a new political party and its vision for the '90s. This initial issue outlines the beginning platform and the method for modifying it by reader feedback, and lays out an ambitious plan culminating with a run for the Presidency in '92 or beyond. Looks interesting and progressive. (S-8)

★★★★★

COMMUNITY Feb.-Mar. 1990 ($25/yr from PO Box 131, Albany, NY 12201): The newsletter of the Capital District Lesbian & Gay Community Center, this one tracks events in Albany plus local and national news. Gay marriage and a project to fight back against anti-gay violence lead off the February issue. March reports on the introduction of a domestic partnership boll in the NY state legislature. (S-8t)

★★★★★

THE COMPLEAT MOTHER Winter 1990 ($12/yr from Jody McLaughlin, PO Box 209, Minot, ND 58702): A magazine for mothers and mothers to be who want to explore alternatives to the traditional—birth without a doctor, home birth, skipping circumcision, extended breastfeeding, cloth diapers and much more. They print a lot of first person accounts and a tremendous amount of medical and nutritional news. Inspiring and growing. (S-64t)

★★★★★

COMPOST MODERN LIFE #4 (One 25¢ stamp from Sean Wolf Hill, 2730 Monroe-Concord Rd., Troy, OH 45373): Sean is getting out a lot of information on living simply and sanely in an age of excess. This issue has typically wide boundaries: an article on cloth diapers, one on "biodegradable" plastic bags, and one on farm bail-outs, for example. Lots of suggestions here and a strong concept of a better world. (S-4r)

★★★★★

COMPOST NEWSLETTER Brigid-Eostre 1990 ($2 from Valerie Walker [No cash, note "for CNL" on check], 729 5th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94118): A pagan newsletter which manages to keep it light by poking fun at New Agers and Big Name Pagans, and keeps up to date by computerizing its Book of Shadows. They publish ritual and commentary, gossip and cartoons. The Brigid issue plugs Joe Montana as a Saint for All Seasons, prints a page of "Politically Correct News", and reprints a classic Bob Black poster. Eostre features equal time for male assholes. (S-20t)

★★★★★

COMPUTERS

README.1ST #6 ($5/4 issues from RK West Consulting, PO Box 8059, Mission Hills, CA 91346): Formerly **THE ORACLE**, this newsletter comes from Rosemary West's shareware operation. This issue discusses viruses and avoiding them, some DOS basics, and evaluates computer magazines for usefulness and accessibility. It's also got a catalog of all her products and some other goodies. (S-14r)

★★★★★

CONGREGATIONAL BIBLE REVIVAL NEWS Vol. 11 #29 ($4/yr from Congregational Bible Churches, PO Box 573, Abilene, KS 67410): It looks like this is another mail-order church, similar to the Universal Life Church, but if anything even more low-budget. The newsletter is a combination of pleas from various pastors in the church and notes on other religions reprinted from more major media. (S-8)

★★★★★

THE CONNECTION #163 ($2.50 from Erwin S. Strauss, PO Box 3343, Fairfax, VA 22038): Maybe it's just a change in my perceptions, but TC seems increasingly to be devolving into bickering and insults between pseudonymous contributors. Oh, there's still life and interesting debate in this libertarian/anarchist apa, but it's getting hard to wade through the other stuff to find it. On the other hand, if you want to have your ideas picked over by astute critics, it's the place to go. (D-76r)

★★★★★

☐**CONSCIENCE CANADA NEWSLETTER** #40 ($10//yr from Box 601, Sta. E, Victoria, BC, V8W 2P3, CANADA): A newsletter for war tax resisters in Canada. Right now there's a case in Canada's Supreme Court on whether a Peace Tax fund will become legal in Canada. Meanwhile, they keep track of conscientious objectors around the world, and report hopeful news as they find it. (S-8t)

★★★★★

CONSERVATORY OF AMERICAN LETTERS NEWSLETTER Vol. V #1 ($2 from PO Box 88, Thomaston, ME 04861): CAL is a publishing house which believes firmly that writers should have a stake in and help promote their work. The major article in this issue is from one of their authors explaining how it's worked for here. They also report on their finances for 1989, which were even more dismal than mine. (S-6t)

★★★★★

CONTACT! 2/20/90 ($1 (?) from Humanist Fellowship of San Diego, PO Box 87662, San Diego, CA 92138): A place for articles and opinions by Humanists in San Diego. They present a calendar of their events and then move into talking about the world, politics, church and state, equality, trials and anything else that strikes their fancy. Mostly reasonable, sometimes bordering on cranky. (S-11t)

★★★★★

☐**CONVERGENCE** Vol. 2 #5 ($10/5 issues from One Sanborn Rd., Concord, NH 03301): The subtitle here is a mouthful: "A Magazine for Personal & Spiritual Growth and Holistic Health". Inside, there's a nice introduction to Ayurveda using modern imagery, a special section on the power of ritual, and an astrological look at Winter. Plenty of ads for New Age type businesses and healers are sprinkled throughout. (S-40t)

THE COOL TRAVELER NEWSLETTER

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- PROSE
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- PHOTOS
- TIDBITS ABOUT PLACES
- CLASSIFIED ADS $2\40 WORDS OR SO
- ART REVIEWS
- MOVIE OR BOOK REVIEWS

THE CURRENT ISSUE IS 50 PAGES. SORRY, A SAMPLE COSTS $3. ESPECIALLY LOOKING FOR ART REVIEWS. SEND ALL TO : THE COOL TRAVELER NEWSLETTER, PO BOX 11975, PHILA., PA. 19145

★★★★★

CONVERGING PATHS Spring Equinox 1990 ($4 from Three Sisters, Ltd., PO Box 603, Mt. Horeb, WI 53572): A pagan journal which is always willing to dive back into discussion of the basics. Right now there's some debate on polarity going on in these pages, along with a good mix of ritual, reviews, invocations, and letters. Eran also continues a serialized article on the gods of Lascaux here. (S-32)

★★★★★

CONVOLUSIONS Vol. 2 #1 (1 IRC from Cerebral Shorts, 212 Victoria Rd., Northcote 3070, AUSTRALIA): An international mail art zine which features announcements of shows all over the place as well as small pieces of mail art. The back cover is generally reserved for some multi-colored printing, while inside they print a list of lost folks with the hope that someone knows where they went. (D-16t)

★★★★★

COOL STUFF, ABOUT

(in•sit) #3 ($1 from Donna Wilson, PO Box 17046, Arlington, VA 22216): There is a lot of cool stuff here, including commentary on the modern anarchist and music scenes, notes on American politics, a reprinted A.A. Attanasio story (one of my favorites, at that) and tests for teachers and liberals. I especially liked Todd Mason's column "Polemical notions and chewy bits" and the column on recent small press horror fiction. (S-16t)

★★★★★

THE COOL TRAVELER NEWSLETTER Vol. III #1 ($3 from Bob Moore, PO Box 11975, Philadelphia, PA 19145): Bob publishes first-person accounts from folks who have traveled...whether to Amsterdam or Cleveland is not important. These include essays, poems and travel tips. He's also into trading stamps and stickers internationally. (HS-50)

★★★★★

COOPERATIVES AND COMMUNITY MTM #57-58 ($5 or so from Bill Holden, 4231 Larwin Ave., Cypress, CA 90630): "MTM" stands for "Many To Many", which is the Action Linkage version of an APA. It's a pay as you go forum for discussion, and $5 should get you a few issues. The main goal in this one is to discuss the design of new communities and their relation to cooperative work; I've gotten interested and am now writing for them myself. (D-43r)

★★★★★

CON NEWS Vol. 2 #1 ($12/yr from Privateer Publishing, 7735 Osceola St., Westminster, CO 80030): The main feature here is a list of conventions which covers both the science fiction and gaming worlds. Besides this information (packed into tiny type) they run articles about how and why you can get involved in running conventions. Also available on-line; call their BBS at (303)-426-0623. (T-4t)

★★★★★

☐**COOKED** Vol. 2 #3-4 (SASE from Todd Kristel, Box 1046, 3600 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, PA 19104): A single sheet "Zine of Half-Baked Ideas". In #2 Todd runs down some films not nominated for the Best Picture award that he feels shouldn't be overlooked, and comes out with his best album list for 1989. #4 includes some Reagan nostalgia poetry that works better as humor than poetry. (S-2)

★★★★★

CORPUS CHRISTI MARINER NEWS #10-11 ($10/yr from David Coulter Holiman, PO Box 1960, Corpus Christi, TX 78403): This one is rather specialized: it's designed to keep merchant seamen in Corpus Christi in ouch now that their union hall has closed. It's a mix of personal news and reminiscences together with some graphics and what might be called oral history. Non-mariners are quite welcome to subscribe. (L-2)

★★★★★

☐**COSMIC CURRENT NEWS** #2 (SASE (?) from Ancient Truth Research Foundation, 6146 Eleanor Ave. #205, Los Angeles, CA 90038-2723): This may not be the main publication, which carries a

$2 price tag; the single sheet I got is headed "Ad Wheel" and consists exclusively of New Agish ads. Some of these, like the one for the "Jesus Watch, Our Savior with Apostles" are unwittingly pretty funny. (S-1)

★★★★★

COUNTERATTACK #9 ($25/yr from Refuse & Resist, 305 Madison Ave. #1166, New York, NY 10165): Refuse & Resist is an umbrella group formed to resist various government actions these days; right now flagburning and keeping abortion clinics open seem to be their main concerns. They're putting energy into activism, not publishing, so the newsletter is now photocopied from chapter reports, giving a picture of what's going on around the country. (S-18)

★★★★★

COUNTER CULTURE #7 ($3 from Sean Wolf Hill, 2730 Monroe-Concord Rd., Troy, OH 45373): A zine for people who are fascinated by classic diners—which apparently includes an awful lot of people. They publish diner reviews and directories, keep an eye out for diners on film and in print, and explore the dimensions of dinertude. C, Goldberg contributes a touching diner story in this issue. (S-18)

★★★★★

COUNTER INFORMATION #25 (Donation from Pigeonhole CI, c/o 11 Forth St., Edinburgh EH1, UK): An anarchist zine into fighting back against the system by action now. Currently they're really excited by the wave of poll tax resistance which seems to be sweepign the country. Short international news bits cover resistance activities around the world. (A4-4t)

★★★★★

CPAPR Vol. V #4 (Donation from PO Box 26, Swain, NY 14884): The title stands for Coalition to Protect Animals in Parks & Refuges, which is exactly what this group tries to do. They report on proposed changes to the status of animals in various wildlife refuges, and urge readers to write and make their feelings known. They also carry hunting and animal rights news briefs from around the world. (S-4)

★★★★★

☐**CREATIVE WRITING WORKS** #2 ($1 (?) from Us First Press, Room 307, JHS 126, 424 Leonard St., Brooklyn, NY 11222): A collection of short stories and poems from a ninth grade classroom. There's a lot crammed in here, with most seeming a bit underdeveloped. On the other hand, how many folks that age are publishing at all? (L-4)

★★★★★

CRITICAL WAVE #15 ($10/6 issues from Tom Hanlon, 1307 Seaboard, Baton Rouge, LA 70810-6062): Tom agents this British SF news zine for editors Steve Green and Martin Tudor. It's becoming quite a repository for the SF fan, with notes on dozens of newly issued books, convention reports, zine reviews, gossip, and much more. Articles in this issue consider the British publishing field and the relation between sex and the SF pulps. (A4-24)

★★★★★

☐**CRTL NEWSLETTER** Dec. 1989-Feb. 1990 ($25/yr from 6678 Pertzborn Rd., Dane, WI 53529): The initials stand for Citizens For Rational Traffic Laws—their definition apparently being mainly "faster speed limits". Arguments that speed does not kill, fighting for the right to own radar detectors, and similar issues take up most of their space. They do get into insurance issues and other attempts to limit driving rights as well. (S-12t)

★★★★★

CULTWATCH RESPONSE Vol. 2 #2 ($2 from PO Box 1842, Colorado Springs, CO 80901): A newsletter from the pagan/Wiccan community which tries to track and counteract the various ridiculous rumors of Satanism floating around the country. They're active in trying to explain to audiences like fundamentalists and law officers what pagans are and believe. This issue reports on attending a conference on Satanism and surprising the folks there. (HL-12t)

★★★★★

CURRENTS Vol. 1 #2-3 ($5 from PO Box 962, Riverdale, MD 20737): This is a serious journal of Unificationist thought and theology (Unificationism is the proper name for the religion led by Sun Myung Moon). The writers here are not receiving church support, so they have room to be critical and independent, and the level of scholarship seems (at least to this outsider) to be high. Dan Holdgreiwe provides an interesting view of the State from a religious perspective in #2. (S-25)

★★★★★

DAILY IMPULSE Vol. 5 #10 ($1 from PO Box 90312, San Diego, CA 92109): A monthly anarchist broadside with a poster on one side and essays on the other. This time the graphic demands "Stop Operation Rescue", while the fine print discusses social democracy, fascism, local music, and yes, Operation Rescue. (O-2r)

★★★★★

☐**DANDELION** Vol. 16 #1-2 ($15/yr from The Dandelion Magazine Society, 922 - 9th Ave. SE, Calgary, Alberta, T2G 0S4, CANADA): A fine literary magazine from Western Canada. Though it leads off with a ton of poetry, there is much more here; **DANDELION** is notable for giving equal attention to visual arts and reviewing as well as poetry and prose. Highlights of #2 include the Casablanca photos of George Webber and W.P. Kinsella's short story "Japanese Baseball", which sensitively explores its subject and the life surrounding it. (D-90t)

★★★★★

DARK LILY #10 ($3 from BCM Box 3406, London WC1N 3XX, ENGLAND): A magazine for serious seekers on the left hand path. They eschew the sort of flashy, fashion-conscious Satanism which one runs across all too often today in favor of more restrained statements of faith and more serious attempts at self-knowledge. As such, there are questions here as well as answers, and an invitation to hard workers to join the work on the path. (A5-32)

★★★★★

DARKNERVE #4 ($2.50 from 276 28th St., San Francisco, CA 94131): What sort of zine would choose "dogs/furniture" as a theme? One that is seriously different, like **DARKNERVE**. Besides some clever short stories, they have an interview with Paul Krassner, some experimental work from Richard Kostelanetz, a talk with Antero Alli, and Ben Price on the dangers of thinking. (O-36t)

★★★★★

☐**DEAD PEOPLE** ($1 & a stamp from G. Wood, 426 Cinnaminson Ave. #2, Palmyra, NJ 08065): A retelling, in words and pictures, of the shooting of John Lennon by Mark David Chapman. It's all in very poor taste, making Lennon out to be the villain of the piece. Sure to enrage Beatlemaniacs. (HL-16)

★★★★★

THE DECADENT WORKER #166-170 ($1/5 issues from PO Box 5498, Atlanta, GA 30307): One of Kerry Thornley's wall newspapers, a series of quick-reading broadsides with political import. In these issues he discusses further world hunger and genocide, his

connections with Lee Harvey Oswald and their exaggeration by Jim Garrison, and the strange death of a computer hacker named Hagbard Celine. (S-1)

★★★★★

DECALCOMANIA #72 ($1.25 from Mark Strickert, 3852 N. Oconto, Chicago, IL 60634): A club for people interested in commercial radio. They're into swapping stickers and airchecks, and the newsletter talks about how to get these items as well as industry news. Inquiries also get an informational sheet which explains things better than I can. (S-8r)

★★★★★

□**DEMETER'S EMERALD** Lupercalia 19990 ($2 from PO Box 612603, South Lake Tahoe, CA 95761): Published by Pagans for Peaceful Parturition, this pagan journal is aimed at mothers, whether pregnant or childraising, and at the rest of the family as well. There is much talk of various means of natural birth and breastfeeding, plus ideas on raising kids in a pagan family. Lots of this is shared from readers. Looks like a happy, helpful network. (D-40r)

★★★★★

DE NAR #40-42 (IRCs from Postbus 104, 1210 Brussel 21, BELGIUM): A Belgian review of the small press and alternative scenes, loaded with European contact addresses, dates and short reviews. But of course you have to be able to read Dutch to make much use of it. (A5-16r)

★★★★★

DENDRON #15/16 ($1.50 from PO Box 11284, Eugene, OR 97440): A rather inspiring journal from people who've been through the mill of the psychiatric system and lived to tell about it—which some patients do not. There's an inspiring piece from Kate Millett about her own experiences in this issue, as well as any number of short news bits. There are alternatives to incarceration, forced drugging, and electroshock, and these people are trying to help publicize them. (S-20t)

★★★★★

□**DE WITT DIGEST & REVIEW** Vol. 5 #1 ($3 (?) from Wilmam-Sutton House, PO Box 355, Seal beach, CA 90740): This is a serious review of current books—or, in one case, of a review of a current book. These range from a look at Gertrude Stein to an evaluation of one of Fernand Braudel's chewy books of French history. Erudite and a bit cranky in spots, it's a good bit of intellectual reading. (D-36t)

★★★★★

DIARIST'S JOURNAL #26-27 ($2 from 102 W. Water St., Lansford, PA 18232): "True things happening to ordinary people" is on the masthead of this tabloid devoted to reprinting diary excerpts from anyone who cares to send them. Sometimes they excerpt published diaries as well, as with the bits of Richard Burton in #26. There are also notes on how to write and features on prominent diarists. #27 has a selection of Civil War diaries and of course some stuff on the Mencken diary. (T-20t)

★★★★★

DISCOMBOBULATION #3 ($1.50 [no checks] from PO Box 2391, Montgomery, AL 36102-2391): A wild mix of stuff: comics, music reviews, free-speech editorials, squashed cat stories, celebrity skinheads and other photos, a Wheel of Fortune short story...there's no way of knowing what's going to turn up on the next page. Includes centerfold instructions for building your own nuclear device. (HL-28)

★★★★★

DISCORDIAN

CHAOTIK WORLD NEWS & OLDS #21 ($1 *CASH* from Pope George Ringo II, TESC, Bldg. D Rm. 106, Olympia, WA 98505): A collection of Discordian, SubGenial, silly and downright strange texts and pictures. From the machine-gun toting smurf on the cover to the movie reviews in back, they wade through a lot of popular (and unpopular) culture. This issue has salvos fired between Ivan Stang and Bob Black, among other attractions. (S-22t)

★★★★★

□**DISCOVERY** Vol. 1 #1 ($8/yr from Apologetics Press, 230 landmark Dr., Montgomery, AL 36117-2752): "A Monthly Paper of Bible and Science for Kids", this one is full of dinosaurs and butterflies and mazes and other fun activities. It's also full of creation science, explaining about Noah's ark, creation a few thousand years ago, and other literal interpretations of the Bible. (S-6t)

★★★★★

THE DISSIDENT Vol. 2 #1 (50¢ from PBGS, PO Box 396, Marbury, MD 20658): A general forum for thinking and participation, They print a bit of poetry, some altered comic strips, a longish essay on education and how to reform it, and some graffiti-style quotes. A few thought-provokers in each issue. (S-13)

★★★★★

DISSILLUSIONED #4 (75¢ from 4041 Nicholl Ave., Muskegon, MI 49444): A medley of stuff from the punk world and elsewhere. For interviews they've got the band Slaughterhouse, God, and a hooker off the street. There are also short stories and notes on the editor's life and a tour diary from someone who wandered around with Bulimia Banquet. They're looking for art to publish. (S-12)

★★★★★

DISMEMBERED CLAVICLE/DYSLEXIC CARNIVORE ("Gifts,s tamps or cool jewelry from Katrina Kelly, PO Box 557, 18 Taylor Ave., Earlville, NY 13332): It doesn't matter that the name of this zine keeps changing, because Katrina asks that you leave it off the envelope anyhow. The **CLAVICLE** is full of half-birthday wish lists, while the **CARNIVORE** branches out to include other odd writing and graffiti. Like a club for mail friends to get together in. (S-8)

★★★★★

DON-O-SAUR #57 ($2 from Don C. Thompson, 3735 W. 81st Pl., Westminster, CO 80030-3919): A science fiction zine in the classic perzine mold. Don writes essays about life and everything—in this issue he wonders about Asimov and his aversion to rock music. Then he opens the pages to letter-writers, and we argue about everything else under the sun. Lots of good writers lurking in those letter pages. (S-40)

★★★★★

THE DOVETAIL Vol. 5 #3 (Donation from Vern Bodkin, Azalea House, 30 Mariner St., Buffalo, NY 4201): A collection of peace and social justice news from the Buffalo area and groups working in it. These range from various Central America bits to a critical view of New York state's nuclear wastes policy. Includes a calendar of local events. (HL-16t)

★★★★★

DR 64 ($1 from Arthur D. Hlavaty, PO Box 52028, Durham, NC 27717): This is a smallish issue of Arthur's personalzine, filling the gaps between longer discussions. Here he talks about a few SF writers, about life in the new academic term, and about "nothing works and nobody cares". Wit at its best. (S-7t)

★★★★★

DRAFT NoTICES Vol. 11 #1 ($10/yr from COMD, PO Box 15195, San Diego, CA 92115): These folks are opposed, not just to the draft, but to militarism in any form. They've maintained their opposition to selective service and extended it to National Service proposals, military recruiting in schools, and more. Lots of information and notes on successful struggles in each issue. (S-10)

★★★★★

□**DRANG DEN** Vol. 1 #1 ($2 (?) from Albany Karma Thegsum Choling, 637 Washington Ave., Albany, NY 12206): The newsletter of our local kagyu school Buddhist center has expanded considerably into tabloid format, and here's the result. It summarizes recent talks from a number of teachers, talks about the schedule of the center, and even explains some of the basics (for example, the different Buddhist lineages). Anyone into meditation should definitely take a look at this, (T—20t)

★★★★★

THE DROOD REVIEW OF MYSTERY Vol. IX #12-Vol. X #1 ($1.50 from PO Box 8872, Boston, MA 02114): A selection of reviews of current mystery novels plus various feature articles. In #12 they review a number of panels from Bouchercon and chat with Peter Martin (aka James Melville), and present a list of forthcoming books to watch for. #1 is mainly short reviews, plus the editors' choices for 1989. (S-20t)

★★★★★

□**THE DRUG POLICY LETTER** Vol. 1 #5 ($50/6 issues from The Drug Policy Foundation, 4801 Massachusetts Ave. NW #400, Washington, DC 20016-2087): A public policy newsletter on drugs that takes a position for decriminalization and even legalization as a sane alternative to the War on Drugs. This issue is entirely made up of quotes from public figures who support this point off view. (S-12t)

★★★★★

THE DUPLEX PLANET #104-105 ($1.50 from David Greenberger, PO Box 1230, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866): David talks to folks in various nursing homes and elderly centers, asking them strange questions, and recording the answers. In #104 the subject is coffee—what it's like, whether it came before tea, even whether people would swim in it. #105 is storms and holidays. Relaxing and enjoyable. (D-16)

★★★★★

EARTHDOG NEWS Vol. 1 #2 ($6/yr from Marie Mundaca, PO Box 16430, Jersey City, NJ 07306): The fan club newsletter for Fred Norris, a shock radio comedian who works with Howard Stern in New York City. They report on recent live and video appearances, and discuss some of the comedy—which is in poor taste, using (for example) AIDS or the Holocaust as takeoff points for commentary. A page of "Holocaust Funnies" closes the issue, which also contains several essays by female staffers lusting for Fred. (S-8t)

★★★★★

EARTHMAKER #3 (Donation from PO Box 23, Woodstock, NY 12498): The Woodstock Nation is still going reasonably strong, and these people are hanging on to both the original ideals and the original geography—in fact, one thing they're trying to do is raise money to buy land. The zine runs down their recent activities, notably the 20th anniversary celebrations. For $2.50 they'll send you a really nice embroidered "Save the Earth" patch. (S-16)

★★★★★

ECOMEDIA #67-70 (Donation from PO Box 915, Sta. F, Toronto, ONT, M4Y 2N9, CANADA): A biweekly journal of news and opinion from an anarchist point of view. #69 has the story of a planned fast to the death by inmates in an Ohio prison. #70 reports on the continued efforts to organize an umbrella group, the Anarchist community Town Hall, in Toronto and on anarchists in Greece, Spain and Poland. (HL-4t)

★★★★★

ECOSPIRIT Vol. 5 #4 ($1 (?) from Institute for Ecosophical Studies, c/o Donald P. St. John, Moravian College, Bethlehem, PA 18018): A small journal which looks at ecological problems from a philosophical point of view. The bulk of this issue is an article from Heather Holtzer titled "What Can I Do For the Earth?", which may not offer much new in its details, but stands as a sign of hope for a new generation of activists. (S-8)

★★★★★

□**ECSTASY** #1 (A$20/6 issues from GPO Box 4644tt, Melbourne 3001, AUSTRALIA): A new arty zine, somewhere on the borders of mail art and experimental poetry. They print written works from John Bennett and artistic ones from Cerebral Shorts, to name a few. This first issue has a colorful cover and a leaf and a feather pressed inside to boot. (M-20)

★★★★★

ELLIPSIS... #3 ($24/4 issues from 1176 E. Campbell Ave., Campbell, CA 95008): A substantial litmag with a Western playful feel to it in places and a dead seriousness in others. Jim Sanderson's short story "Stripping" has quite a bit to say about getting along in the world as it is; Victor Brown's poem "Shared Room" does a nice job of bringing the fantastic back into everyday life. There is much to chew on here. (D-120t)

★★★★★

THE EMERALD PATH #6 ($20/12 issues from GreenSheep, PO Box 1353, Placentia, CA 92760-1353): A New Age sort of journal that tries to be a teacher rather than an entertainer. There's an article about the significance of Venus in your astrological chart, and another about channeling. They also review books and tapes from around the New Age circuit. (S-12t)

★★★★★

□**EMISSIONS** #1 ($4 from 4547 Marmion Way, Los Angeles, CA 90065): A new collection of collages and texts designed to get at some of the issues currently permeating cultural consciousness. Pick of the litter is Rebecca Williams' essay on abortion, which goes beyond most discourse on the subject by redefining the field. There's material on AIDS and consumerism and rape and money and other topics, all addressed through polished but punk-feeling art. (S-48t)

★★★★★

ENCHANTÉ #3-4 ($3 from John Yohalem, 30 Charlton St. #6F, New York, NY 10014): A journal "for the Urbane Pagan" that tends towards longish articles, a sense of humor (witness the continuing script for a pagan soap opera) and rather intellectual analysis. #3 includes some notes on the importance of "manasense" and a look at the story of the judgment of Paris, among other goodies. #4 looks at Freya and Gerda, the Chintz tradition, and the problems of coming out as a witch. (D-24t)

★★★★★

ENDEAVOR Vol. 1 #3 (Donation from PO Box 23511, Houston, TX 77228-3511): Written by prisoners on the Texas Death Row, this is a journal about capital punishment and the battle to put an end to it. The prisoners marshal an impressive array of legal, ethical and sociological evidence to support their contention that we ought not be be sanctioning legal murder. I'm inclined to be convinced, but then, I'm a bleeding-heart liberal from way back. Certainly the depth of feeling here makes this paper worth supporting. (T-12r)

★★★★★

END RESULT #1 ($1 from C. Taylor, 56 Hillborough Rd., Hobart, Tasmania, AUSTRALIA): Better throw in some extra for postage. This zine has a punk ambience about it and even a couple of musical articles, but mostly it's about social justice, or lack of it. They look at the rise of racists in the English-speaking world, gentrification in a local suburb, and ugly working conditions down on the docks. Great cartoons too. (A4-22)

★★★★★

EOTU Dec. 1989 ($4 from Larry Dennis, 1810 W. State #115, Boise, ID 83702): A literary magazine that's constantly pushing the envelope to see what they can do that's new and different. As a result they strike out now and then, with some of the relationship-exploring stories in this issue being a bust. But others, like Joan Brown's "The Cool Embrace" are undeniably compelling. Worth investigating. (D-60t)

★★★★★

EPISTULATIONAL EXSCRAPTS #2 (50¢ & a stamp from Geof Huth, 225 State St. #451, Schenectady, NY 12305): A collection of scraps of text from letters to Geof, and Geof's replies. Topics include climbing in the Andes and the authorship of the Reader's Digest Condensed Bible. No single theme, but a medley of notes, plus assorted styled of calligraphy. (S-4)

★★★★★

□**ERASER CARVERS QUARTERLY** #1 ($2 from 205 Myron Rd., Syracuse, NY 13219-1225): A brand new and friendly zine for folks who have gone beyond rubberstamping to make their own..out of erasers, a hobby I have actually practiced in the past (sorry, I'm not going to hand-stamp 7000 copies of FF so you can see my meager attempts!). There are hints for carvers new and old and of course lots of delightful examples, including some hand-colored stickers from Diane Hall in this issue. (D-12)

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Snevil PO Box 16430, Jersey City, NJ 07306
Make all checks payable to Marie Mundaca

★★★★★

ERC NEWSLETTER Feb.-Mar. 1990 ($10/yr from PO Box 81, Floyd, VA 24091): Floyd may be a small town, but it's got an active alternative community, and this newsletter keeps them in touch. February was an exceptional issue, with folks writing about the dangers of sexual separatism, prejudice in the alternative community, and the significance of menstruation. There's always poetry and a calendar of events as well. (S-16)

★★★★★

□**ERN** Vol. 1 #1-2 ($3 from Panaxis Productions, PO Box 130, Paradise, CA 95967-0130): This radio newsletter is not as new as it looks; they renumbered when they changed formats recently. It's very technical, with lots of circuit diagrams and ideas for the electronics & radio hobbyist, its chosen audience. A lot of news about pirate radio stations sneaks in, though they don't advocate anything illegal. (D-16t)

★★★★★

ESOTERIC/TAROT

MANTEIA #2 ($55/5 issues from Sheila Wilding, 17645 Via Sereno, Los Gatos, CA 95030): Sheila is the US agent for this zine, which is published in Denmark—that accounts for the relatively high price. It's devoted to Tarot cards and is primarily written by K. Frank Jensen, who has an extensive collection. Lots of pictures including one in color, and plenty of esoteric decks that are new to me. (A4-54t)

★★★★★

ETHEL THE AARDVARK #28 (A$12/yr from Melbourne Science Fiction Club, PO Box 212, World Trade Centre, Melbourne, Victoria 3005, Australia): This one is a reasonable source for information on what's going on in Australia these days, at least as far as SF fandom goes. Besides news and club minutes they do book and fanzine reviews and print the odd bit of humor. Their covers are always a headscratching delight. (A4-16t)

★★★★★

EUROPEAN TRASH CINEMA #7 ($6/12 issues from Craig Ledbetter, PO Box 5367, Kingwood, TX 77325): A film zine devoted to screwy and just plain bad movies imported from Europe. This issue is a tribute to director Alejandro Jodorowsky, including an interview and extensive reviews of two of his films. (D-8r)

★★★★★

THE EVENT #32 ($$16/4 issues from PO Box 203, Pequannock, NJ 07440): A magazine for naturists and other folks who are into "clothes-optional living", with a focus on the east coast but worldwide resort news as well. They mix reportage of naturist events with travel articles and news on current legal battles. Lots of energy in this one. (S-36t)

★★★★★

EVERYONE'S BACKYARD Vol. 8 #1 ($25/yr from CCHW, PO Box 926, Arlington, VA 22216): The Citizen's Clearinghouse for Hazardous Wastes is a grassroots group with an impressive record of organizing local folks to fight deadly gunk in their own backyards. This issue has tips on fighting back if you get sued by developers for daring to oppose them, plus their usual medley of news from around the nation and the world. (S-32t)

★★★★★

EXTRA! Vol. 3 #2 ($30/yr from FAIR, 130 W. 25th St., New York, NY 10001): The newsletter that tracks media bias has the perfect topic for this edition, of course: "How Television Sold the Panama Invasion". There's plenty on how the media, electronic and print, hewed faithfully to the administration line during and after the invasion. The Washington Post comes in for its own special examination, as do press reports of shrinking electoral participation in this country. (S-16t)

★★★★★

EXTRAORDINARY SCIENCE Vol. 1 #4 ($20/4 issues from High Energy Enterprises, PO Box 5636, Security, CO 80931): A serious journal for those experimenting on the fringes of science. Topics of greatest interest include free energy, various Tesla experiments, and scalar electromagnetic waves. There is no place in the normal view of modern physics for most of this stuff, but at least some of the contributors here seem to be serious and balanced. (S-40t)

★★★★★

□**THE FANATIC** #1-2 ($1 from PO Box 8238, Kodiak, AK 99615): A medley here...a few music reviews, sadistic tips for pre-teen mothers, drawings that could have been done by five year olds, and pointless short stories. In fact, about all that is missing is some hint of a point. I guess life is dull in Kodiak. (S-8)

★★★★★

FANS OF HORROR #9 ($2 from Joseph Olszewski Jr., 2802 Shirley Rd., Philadelphia, PA 19152): A zine of horror movies and horror comics—there's an interview with gore-soaked artist Michael Diana in this issue, along with news on Wes Craven and other film folks. A few reviews, a lot of letters, and much more art than most zines in the genre have. Printing is a bit spotty, though. (S-36)

★★★★★

FANZINES

□**AMAZING SPACE** #52/53 ($4 or so from Klaus Johansen, Kildegardsvej 134, DK-5240 Odense N0, DENMARK): A Danish SF zine that has been running for about a decade and a half, having developed into a large package of text by now. It's a mix of short stories and coverage of the European fan scene, plus a fairly lengthy review section. (D-108)

★★★★★

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FANTASY FEDERATION Vol. 1 #2 ($3/3 issues from J. Cohen, 50 Shelley Ln., Great Neck, NY 11023): Commentary on the current wrestling scene and predictions for future matches flank the heart of this zine: write-ups and reportage on great wrestling matches that never happened. Invented dialogue, play-by-play action reports and more testify to the popularity of wrestling in today's culture. (S-10)

★★★★★

FAR CORNER Vol. 1 #2 ($2/4 issues from ORL, ASUC #131, Bancroft Way, Berkeley, CA 94720): A light-hearted zine which skates around the edges of UFO and Fortean lore. They list a batch of UFO groups and interview Jim Moseley. But they also get lost searching for a mysterious construction and compare the Grateful Dead logo with the typical alien abduction drawing. (D-8r)

★★★★★

□**FARM PULP** #2 ($1 from 1404 N. 41st St., Seattle, WA 98103): Much of the content here is swiped without credit from the major media, then whizzed about with a hand blender into a stew, bound together with short rants and obscure comics (I liked the land of the giant appliances). Mexican vacations, recycling, apparitions, Mel Blanc, artificial hearts...all here, along with perplexing interviews and poetry. (S-24t)

★★★★★

FAT TUESDAY Ex Animo Issue ($7 from F.M. Cotolo, 8125 Jonestown Rd., Harrisburg, PA 17112): Published a few years back, but a small stock has been unearthed and the poetry and prose here holds up as well as ever. There are some short snaps from Cheryl Townsend, a wistful elevator story by the editor, and a quick-tripping poem from Tandy Klutts, "Drowning", that I rather liked. (D-40)

★★★★★

THE FEAT SHEET Vol. 3 #1 ($1 from 818 W. 85th St., Kansas City, MO 64114): This one is a newsletter for footbag enthusiasts—you've probably seen them in the park kicking those little leather bags around. It turns out that there is a whole organized sport behind this, with rules and records and everything. Technical accounts of footbag moves combine here with stories about memorable evenings of kicking. Fun ambience. (S-8t)

★★★★★

FELL SWOOP #19/20 ($6/yr from XJ Dailey, 1521 N. Lopez St., New Orleans, LA 70119): "Yet another burst of literary mindfill", this one has a jittery skittery feeling about it encouraged by collage layouts and bits of clipped art. Good stuff: M. Kettner's story/rant "The Button", the Barbara Bush mound page, Richard Martin's trip to the laundromat in the garden of Eden, and much more. (S-20)

★★★★★

FERMENT Vol. V #10-11 ($20/yr from Roy Lisker, 152 Kisor Rd., Highland, NY 12528): Roy changes topis with blinding speed; with these issues he picks up some serialized fiction which he started early last year. The chief character in this detective story is Inspector Migraine, a sort of backhanded homage to Georges Simenon's Inspector Maigret. (D-32r)

★★★★★

FESTERING BRAINSORE #9-10 ($1 from David R. Williams, 249 Tremont St. N #1, North Tonawanda, NY 14120): More text and less gory pictures than usual in #9 of this little zine devoted primarily to being gross. Gregory Nyman contributes some disgusting stories, while someone else gives advice on writing to mass murderers. Infant suicide and "Disney Chainsaw Massacre" cartoons dress it up. (S-16)

★★★★★

FIELD TRIP #3 (45¢ from Paul Rydeen, PO Box 207, Ft. Lyon, CO 81038-0207): This "gnostic agnostic" zine starts off with a chain-letter ordination on the inside front cover, and then proceeds into a variety of writings on time travel, reincarnation, and nirvana. It closes with a listing of obscure religious groups and other organizations of interest, including various Crowleyites, mail-order ministries, and the Institute for General Semantics. This last will be useful to any fan of strange mail. (S-18)

★★★★★

FIGMENT #2 ($3.95 from PO Box 3566, Moscow, ID 83843-0477): A magazine of speculative fiction of all sorts. The best bet here is Tom Elliott's lead story, "Food Fight", a mercenary adventure set in a future fast-food paradise and replete with cliches, played just right. Other notable work includes poetry from Sherry Brandon and Don Hornbostel's "The Watercolor Desert". (D-60t)

★★★★★

FILE 770:83 ($5/5 issues from Mike Glyer, 5828 Woodman Ave. #2, Van Nuys, CA 91401): A science fiction enwszine which has become an institution simply by virtue of staying power—well, also Glyer's sense of humor and gossip conventions. This issue has 1989 Worldcon coverage, fan news centered on the SF earthquake, 4E Ackerman's birthday party, and a medley of other stuff. (S-22)

★★★★★

□**THE FILLMORE BU^{N}GLE** ($$2/yr from S.P.E.R.M.F.L.O.W., PO Box 712, Cascade, CO 80809): The newsletter of the Society for the Preservation and Enhancement of the Recognition of Millard Fillmore, Last Of The Whigs is a group "dedicated to mediocrity". What this translates to is a very funny thing, looking at some of the people and events that make America a mediocre place to live: Pete Rose's betting, Zsa Zsa's trial, Dan Quayle's knowledge of space and Ted Bundy jokes are featured in this issue. (S-12t)

★★★★★

FILM

MONSTER #26-28 ($10/24 issues from Timothy Paxton, MPO Box 67, Oberlin, OH 44074-0067): This one comes out twice a month and focuses exclusively on monster movies. Timothy keeps finding new ways to group them, as with the section in #26 devoted to "Mediocre films highlighted by stop motion SFX". #27 includes a rather laudatory review of *Night Breed*. More possession flicks and a free mini-poster in #28. (D-4t)

★★★★★

MONSTER:89 ($2 from Timothy Paxton, MPO Box 67, Oberlin, OH 44074-0067): This is Tim's annual roundup, much fatter than the twice-monthly zine above. He reprints some of the best of the previous articles and throws in some news tuff too, along with an index to all monsters mentioned in the earlier issues. Ghost films, Eddie Romero, and more grace this digest. (D-24t)

★★★★★

NAKED! SCREAMING! TERROR! #2 ($2 from Timothy Paxton, MPO Box 67, Oberlin, OH 44074-0067): A collection of movie reviews and features by Timothy and other writers. There's an interview with Bob Martin in this issue, as well as a great many foreign films in the horror/sf genres. (D-20t)

★★★★★

THEY WON'T STAY DEAD #8 ($1 from Brian Johnson, 11 Werner Rd., Greenville, PA 16125): Movie coverage that zeroes in on rather downbeat, gory, and disturbing movies. *Manson* gets a page in this issue, and *The Haunting* and *The Bay of Blood* also come in for examination. There's a special section on some of the pictures released by Crown International. (D-16r)

★★★★★

FILMCLIPS #5 ($2 from PO Box 1335, New York, NY 10013): "The Movie Memorabilia Classifieds" is growing, with more and more articles and reviews in between the ads. For collectors of Flintstones or Lost In Space or similar materials, there's a lot here in the ads. Otherwise, there are zine reviews, recollections of celebrities, fan club listings and letters. (S-16t)

★★★★★

□**FILM PHLEGM** ($1 (?) from PO Box 726, University Sta., Syracuse, NY 13210): This is something of the ultimate genre movies zine. The trend among these zines has always been to review more and more obscure flicks. Here, the movies are so obscure ("Isle of the Nazi Cannibals") that I suspect they don't even exist. (D-8r)

★★★★★

□**THE FINAL CALL** Vol. 9 #2 ($18/24 issues from FCN Publishing Company, 734 W. 79th St., Chicago, IL 60620): This is the newspaper for Louis Farrakhan's group, the Nation of Islam. It's clear in context that their distrust of Israel—for, among other things, working with South Africa—is only a small part of their worldview. The general thrust here is to document ways in which the black people are being oppressed by the system, and to organize them to exercise power of their own. (T-32t)

★★★★★

THE FINE LINE #5 ($10/yr from The Alliance, 826 Euclid Ave., Syracuse, NY 13210): This one is for people who are involved, usually against their will, with the mental health system. They are consistent advocates for the rights of psychiatric inmates, and oppose electroshock and forced drugging. Lots of networking info here, as well as news on where to turn when you have a problem. (S-18)

★★★★★

FIREHEART #4 ($4 from PO Box 462, Maynard, MA 01754): A well-produced pagan zine that goes in for weighty articles. Much of this issue is devoted to examining the related topics of elders, the Crone, and death. They also find room for a fascinating panel discussion on the roots of modern paganism involving (among others) Otter G'Zell, Judy Harrow and Isaac Bonewits and an article on the spiritual benefits of fasting. (S-56t)

★★★★★

FISHES #4 ($4 from 6601 Kirby #560, Houston, TX 77005): A classy-looking litmag, with a colorful cover and spiral comb binding. Inside there's a strange political play by Paul Weinman, an awfully nasty story by Carol Mohr, poetry, photos, postcards and other goodies. Much of the work here has an open feeling about it, as though it were waiting for a larger story to come along and encompass it, or as though the reader was invited to play too. (S-50t)

★★★★★

☐**A FISTFUL OF ZEN** #1 (25¢ or a stamp from Clayton J. Kennedy, 801 Woodland Ave., San Carlos, CA 94070): "The Pocket Chronicle for Blank Minds" starts off with a couple of music reviews as an appetizer. The main course is a short story of cultures clashing, while dessert comes in the form of a bit of grafriti. A fast read, bite-sized zine. (S-2r)

★★★★★

FLAMING SIN! #3-4 (50¢ from PO Box 726, University Stn, Syracuse, NY 13210): A collage of clippings and photos from both tabloids and regular papers leading to the conclusion that the world si indeed a strange place. An elementary-age Brigadier General, sales, death, football, Bush & Noriega...it's all in #3. The last supper gets reworked in #4. (S-4t)

★★★★★

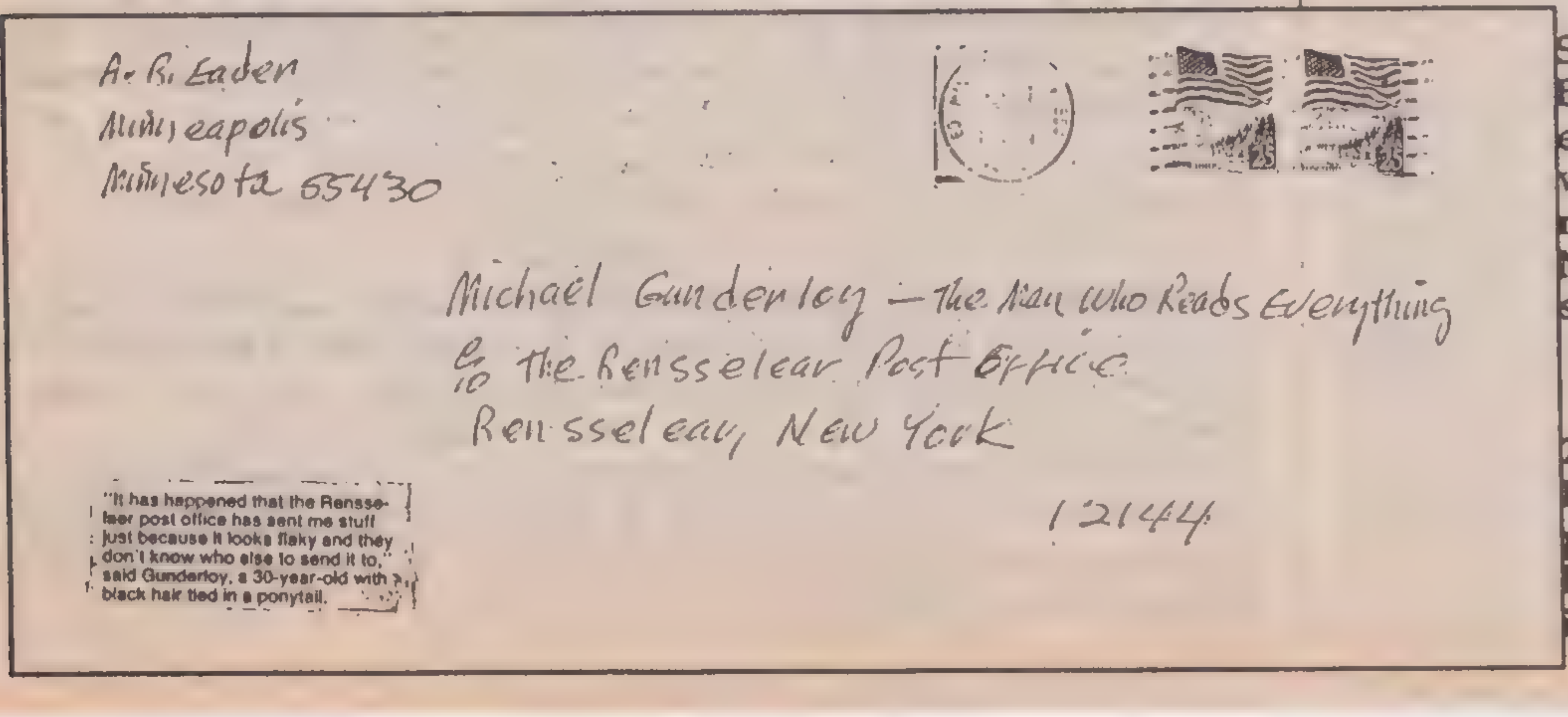
FLY Vol. 2 #5 ($1 from PO Box 5554, Sta. A, Toronto, ONT, M5W 1N7, CANADA): A neatly typeset magazine that comes out as a series of postcards. #2 begins the story of Stan, a man who becomes obsessed with the idea that the "biggest hand wins". (M-2t)

★★★★★

F.O.C. REVIEW Vol. 3 #1 ($10/4 issues from PO Box 101, Worth, IL 60482): A rather traditional litmag, which encourages good solid writing rather than experimentalism. I enjoyed Michael Ogorzaly's "The Skaters", a story of rather ordinary childhood, and the poetry of Carol Morrison in this issue. (D-48t)

★★★★★

☐**FOLK ART MESSENGER** Vol. 3 #1-2 ($20/4 issues from PO Box 17041, Richmond, VA 23226): The magazine of the Folk Art Society of America, a group devoted to studying and preserving folk artists and their works. Actually, there seem to be fine gradations of meaning here between folk and outsider art, and they cover both. There are plenty of photos, book reviews, and articles about particular artists. #1 sweeps across a bunch of Kentuckians and features Howard Finster and his lively painted sermons. (S-12t)



A. R. Eader
Minneapolis
Minnesota 55430

Michael Gunderloy — The Man Who Reads Everything
c/o The Rensselear Post Office
Rensselear, New York

12144

"It has happened that the Rensselaer post office has sent me stuff just because it looks flaky and they don't know who else to send it to," said Gunderloy, a 30-year-old with black hair tied in a ponytail.

★★★★★

FOR CRYING OUT LOUD Vol. 4 #2 ($10/4 issues from Survivors Newsletter Collective, Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge, MA 02139): "A newsletter for women survivors of child sexual abuse:", this one tries to put such women together with the support resources that exist for them. They print short articles and letters, and act as a conduit for both research and rage, plus current news on high-profile cases. (S-8t)

★★★★★

FOSFAX #147 ($3 from FOSFA, PO Box 37281, Louisville, KY 40233-7281): Nominally the zine of the Falls of the Ohio SF Association, this is a meeting place for all manner of letterhacks, including many I recognize as FF readers. Besides the zillions of in-print discussions, they actually review a fair number of SF books and talk about conventions and science and stuff. (S-42r)

★★★★★

FRACTAL REPORT #6-7 ($23/6 issues from J. de Rivaz, c/o Reeves Telecommunications, West Towan House, Porthtowan, Truro, Cornwall, TR4 8AX, UK): A journal for those who are fascinated by the Mandelbrot set and related mathematical entities. They concentrate on computer code that can actually be used, or at least adapted, to get images up on your screen. There are plenty of pictures and suggestions here, and #7 has the addresses of some similar periodicals in the States. (A4-20)

★★★★★

☐**FRED'S SHEET** #1 (SASE from Frederick J. Liddle, 404 Erie Ave., Tampa, FL 33606): An overrun of Fred's HAPAzine, but available separately. In it he discusses his own involvement with amateur printing and the AAPA (for which he currently does some recruiting). He also prints an essay titled "A Cow is a Cow", which is, well, strange. (S-2r)

★★★★★

☐**FREEBIES** #89-90 ($2 from PO Box 20283, Santa Barbara, CA 93120): "The Magazine with Something for Nothing" devotes its pages to listing free and low-cost (under $2 seems to be the rule) things you can get through the mail: marbles, plastic dinosaurs, pamphlets on Washington State apples and car care, bubble bath, and more. They review every item, make sure supplies are adequate, and offer hints on using the listings properly. (S-32t)

★★★★★

FREEDOM NETWORK NEWS #25 ($1 (?) from ISIL, 9308 Farmington Dr., Richmond, VA 23229): A Libertairan news magazine with an eye towards international events. They've undergone a facelift recently, and now have more feature articles mixed with their short reports. This issue includes an interview with Dr. Martin Krause, an Argentine economist, and a debate on Israel and the Middle East. (S-24t)

★★★★★

FREEDOM SOCIALIST Vol. 11 #4 ($5/yr from 5018 Ranier Ave. S, Seattle, WA 98118): "The Voice of Revolutionary Feminism", this one is actually active in bringing socialism to a number of repressed groups, from Asian-Americans to people of color. They tend to be a bit apocalyptic in their predictions for the '90s, but that may be because of their success in several broad coalitions in the Seattle area. Meanwhile, they're still fighting for their political life, arguing before the Supreme Court their right to keep party records a secret. (T-16t)

★★★★★

THE FREEDOM WRITER Vol. VII #1 ($20/yr from Simon, Porteous & Associates, PO Box 589, Great Barrington, MA 01230): A newsletter put out by ex-Fundamentalists, which fights strongly to maintain a wall of separation between church and state. This issue reports the disturbing antics of an Ohio born-again Mayor, and promises to sue if necessary to get him to stop using his office to promote religion. (S-4t)

★★★★★

☐**THE FREEDONIA GAZETTE** #21 ($8/yr from Darien 28, New Hope, PA 18938-1224): This is a zine for Marx Brothers fans...or, considering the depth of the research, perhaps "addicts" would be a better word. They have lots to say about the movies, the records, and the careers in general of the famous brothers, publish notes related to their shows, photos, and a whole mess of other stuff. Enjoyable. (S-20)

★★★★★

FREE PRESS NETWORK Vol. 8 #5 ($20/yr from FPA, PO Box 15548, Columbus, OH 43215): A newsletter for journalists and other parties interested in a strong defense of the first amendment. They hand out the annual Mencken Awards for well done editorials and the like, and hold conferences. Some of the failings of the mainstream media are bluntly discussed here as well. (S-8t)

★★★★★

☐**FREE RADICAL** #1 (The Usual from Steve Green, 33 Scott Road, Olton, Solihull, B92 7LQ, ENGLAND): This is Steve's zine for **FAPA**, the oldest of the science fiction apas. As befits the place, he speaks very little of SF, but gives us a great deal on British media, the Rushdie affair, and the fun of living in fandom. Enjoyable and with a nice sense of style. (A4-6)

★★★★★

☐**FRISKY MUTANT DISCO BALLS** #1 (Stamps or tacky donations from Julie Jared, Steam Sawmill Hill, Sherburne, NY 13460): From its glitter-coated letter (glitter seems to be making a comeback on zines these days...envelopes of the stuff keep bursting in my mail) onwards, this is a zine devoted to tackiness. Barbie kleenex (the free gift with my copy), disco, 70's nostalgia, deranged family members, bizarre stories, stream of consciousness writing, it's all here. Not for the easily perplexed. (HL-12)

★★★★★

FROM THE MOUNTAIN Nov./Dec. 1989-Jan./Feb. 1990 (Donation from The Mountain Church, PO Box 488, Byron, MI 48418): This is one of the central links in the network of white-power groups out there; reading it will give you addresses for many more of similar ilk. Pastor Miles writes of his vision of the future of America, a strong working nation, and what will happen to the folks who now run ZOG (their acronym for "Zionist Occupation Government"). Lots of rabble-rousing, but I have no idea how large their audience is. (S-16)

★★★★★

☐**FRONTIERS** Vol. 8 #20-21 ($26/yr from 7985 Santa Monica Blvd. #109, West Hollywood, CA 90046): "The Gay Newsmagazine" comes with a colorful slick cover, an oversized format, and lots of contents. Divine and Warhol share the cover on #21, but inside there is plenty more, from national legal and medical news, to meetings within the community, to a ton of classified ads. (O-54t)

★★★★★

FROSTBITE FALLS FAR-FLUNG FLIER! Vol. 4 #3 ($1.25 from Charles Ulrich, c/o Swick, 6002 Redondo Ct. NW, Albuquerque, NM 87107): A fanzine for people fond of Jay Ward cartoons, including but not limited to Rocky and Bullwinkle. This issue includes an extensive list of people who worked with Ward, lots of trivia, and notes on Bullwinkle's poetry readings. (S-12)

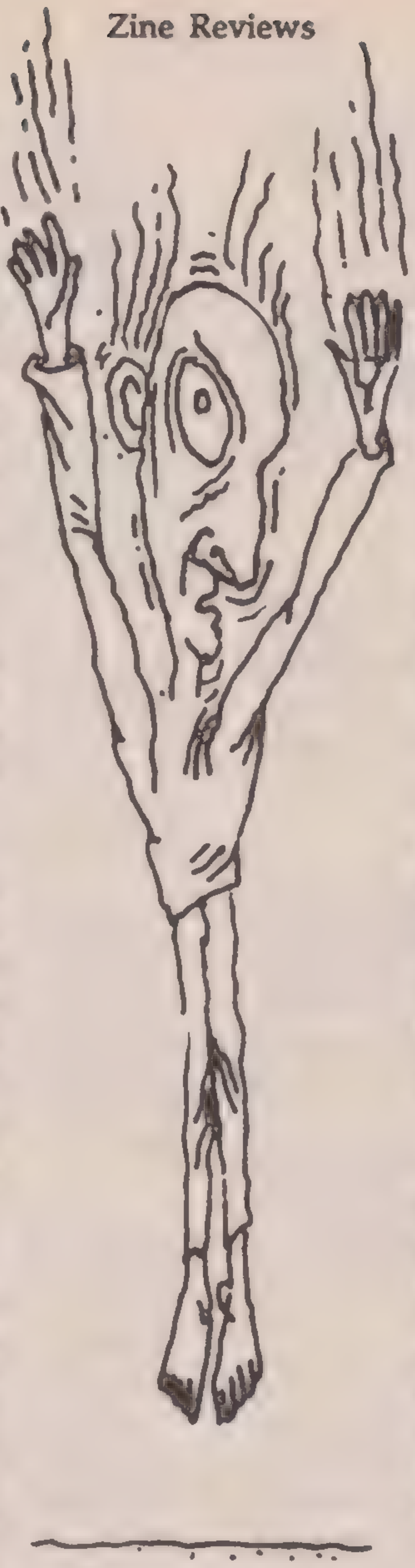
★★★★★

FUNHOUSE MIRROR #4-5 ($1 from 853 Vanderbilt Beach Rd #203, Naples, FL 33963): Being as this is a high school underground paper, parts of it are naturally pretty opaque to those of us living several states away. #4 picks on the chess club quite a while, while #5 includes a free plastic worm. Go figure. Anyhow, both are full of comics and stories poking fun, gently or otherwise, at the campus and its denizens. (S-20r)

★★★★★

FUSE Vol. XIII #3 ($15/5 issues from Main Floor, 183 Bathurst St., Toronto, ONT, M5T 9Z9, CANADA): A well-heeled arts magazine with an explicitly Canadian focus and a rather leftist point of view. Articles in this issue look at institutionalized racism in PEN Canada and the politics of to Royal Museum's African collection. They also review many events and provide a good forum for theoretical discussion. (S-48t)

★★★★★



GALAXY CLASS #5 ($4.50 from Christopher Laird Simmons, PO Box 7000-822, Redondo Beach, CA 90277): A fanzine for folks who like "Star Trek: The Next Generation". They feature a mix of technical data from the show, interviews with people involved (the actor who plays "Q" gets a chat in this issue) and fan fiction, both serious and humorous. This issue has a page from the current writer's guide for the show. (S-30t)

★★★★★

THE GALVIN REPORT #3 (50¢ (?) from Chris Smyth, 112 Mansfield Dr., Camillus, NY 13031): A short zine that wanders around the map of culture from cereal reviews to comics character drawings by Tisch to an afternoon with Batman's Adam West. Chris sprinkles it all with clippings from the papers of silly or media-related stories. (S-8)

★★★★★

☐**THE GAMUT** #28 ($3.50 from 1216 Rhodes Tower, Cleveland State University, Cleveland, OH 44115): This somewhat-academic "Journal of Ideas and Information" covers a lot of ground in its perfect-bound pages. Psychiatrist Victor Victoroff discusses testifying for the defense in a murder trial, artist Karen Kovachik explores the power of digital image manipulation, and Harvey Pekar writes of "Russian Literature's Reawakening". Other topics include Minoan bull jumping and Christian worship in China today. (S-96t)

★★★★★

GARGOYLE #37/38 ($10 (?) from Paycock Press, PO Box 30906, Bethesda, MD 20824): I don't usually review magazines that are ceasing publication, but in this case I just wanted to say farewell. This issue is as huge and varied as all the others I ever saw of this litmag (actually, with its perfect binding, more of a litbook)...an interview with Kathy Acker, poetry from Miriam Sagan and Ivan Arguelles, photography by Cynthia Connolly, drawings by Y. David Chung, fiction by Tom Whalen, reviews, and more. Going out with a bang. (S-178t)

★★★★★

THE GATE Apr. 1990 ($6/4 issues from PO Box 43518, Richmond Heights, OH 44143): A zine of Forteana which tends to be written on a very popular level, and avoids some of the internecine battles which plague outre scientific fields. This issue reports on some modern supernatural cases, lake monsters, and aliens. There are some follow-up sources listed. (S-16)

★★★★★

☐**GAWK** #3 ($1/4 issues from Tom Shearer, 448 Gold Mine Dr., San Francisco, CA 94131): The newsletter of the Gay Artists & Writers Kollective, which seems to include everyone who sends Tom stuff to print. The poems and tales here are held together by his own running commentary, on everything from gay culture to why there aren't more desktop-published newsletters. Lighthearted and fun, with the ads from the Berkeley Condom Co-op adding just the right touch. (S-14t)

★★★★★

GAY COMMUNITY NEWS Vol. 17 #26-34 ($20/6 months from 62 Berkeley St., Boston, MA 02116): A collectively-produced weekly paper of news and views for the gay community. #27 started an excellent 3-part series on class issues in the lesbian & gay community. #33 includes an interview with novelist Sarah Schulman and a front-page story on the Supreme Court's decision not to hear cases on gays in the military. (T-20t)

★★★★★

☐**GEMSTONE INQUIRY** Vol. 1 #1 ($1 from IllumiNet Press, PO Box 746, Avondale Estates, GA 30002-0746): A new zine devoted to the Gemstone Files, that mess of modern U.S. conspiracy theory. They try to track down historical correlations, note new Gemstone-like events, and generally sort out the fantasy from the possible truth. A small beginning, but looks determined. (D-8r)

★★★★★

GENII Vol. 53 #3-4 ($30/yr from PO Box 36068, Los Angeles, CA 90036): A slick magazine for the professional stage or close-up magician. They feature an incredible array of useful articles and ads that are almost as fun, plus news on personalities in the magic scene. In #3, Charles Penton really shines with his selection of advice (lavishly illustrated) for magicians new and old. (S-68t)

★★★★★

GET STUPID #14 ($2 *CASH* from 25 Grant St., Ca,bridge, MA 02138): Bizarre graphics and drawings, from the techno-xerographic front cover to the balloon-anvil vendor on the back. Inside we have some dopy crooks from Fitz's pen, "Nancy" altered to a more Lovecraftian presence, and Ahmed Fishmonger's look back at 1960. The SubGenial influence seems to be toning down a bit here, but the strangeness is not dissipating. (S-24)

★★★★★

THE GHOST STORY SOCIETY NEWSLETTER #4 ($12/yr from Jeff Dempsey, 2 Looe Road, Croxteth, Liverpool, L11 6LJ, UK): As you might assume, this one is for people who prefer the literary sub-genre of the ghost story. They discuss items in print, both new and old, mainstream and small press. There are also contact addresses here for a batch of similar societies and some interesting letters of comment. (A5-20r)

★★★★★

GHOST TRACKERS NEWSLETTER Vol. 9 #1 ($10/3 issues from Dale Kaczkmarek, PO Box 205, Oak Lawn, IL 60454-0205): This is for those who wish to investigate psychic disturbances caused by ghosts. Their strongest feature is a review of books and news in the field, with notes on which ones are the best. They also report on particular hauntings and sightings from all over the place. (S-19)

★★★★★

GODSEND #14 ($1 & a stamp from Todd Zachritz, 1401 Fuquay Rd., Evansville, IL 47715): A little of a lot of things here. The core of GODSEND is the short short stories, with this issue featuring a couple of upchuck-provokers from Gregory Nyman. There's also animal rights, music reviews, nasty little cartoons, and Bob Z. editorializing on social issues. (D-28r)

★★★★★

☐**THE GOLDEN CORD** Vol. 3 #5 ($1 (?) from 8013 Gleason Rd., Knoxville, TN 37919): "Connecting resources of positive thought in Knoxville" is the purpose here. They carry hopeful articles on a wide variety of New Age topics, from crystals to natural foods to Earth Day, and have a small directory of local community alternative businesses. (T-16t)

★★★★★

GOOD VIBES GAZETTE #VIII (SASE from Good Vibrations, 1210 Valencia St., San Francisco, CA 94110): This is a combination catalog and newsletter from Good Vibrations, a collectively-run feminist company that sells vibrators, dildos, massage oils, and other goodies. It includes answers to commonly-asked questions, some stuff on their philosophy of business, and a current price list. (S-8t)

★★★★★

G'RAFFITI Vol. III #1-3 ($5/12 issues from PO Box 16898, San Diego, CA 92116): Newsletter of the Camelopards, a group of high-IQ folks who get together to socialize in the San Diego area. They publish the calendar of future activities and reports on past ones, serious book reviews and silly sayings, and generally seem to be having lots of fun. Book reviews brush elbows with a mousse recipe in #3. (S-24t)

★★★★★

☐**GRAVE MATTERS** Vol. V #2-3 ($5/4 issues from 1163 Warrenhall Ln., Atlanta, GA 30319): It's finding zines like this that makes this job so delightful. GM comes to us from the Society of Civil War Necrolithologists—and if you know your Latin, you know they're interested in gravestones from the Civil War. Most of the contents here concern efforts to find particular graves, as well as notes on ones already found and on the Civil War and its participants. (S-8)

★★★★★

☐**GREAT EXPEDITIONS** #60 ($18/6 issues from PO Box 8000-411, Sumas, WA 98295-8000): A travel magazine for those who like their travel to be reasonably inexpensive and away from the beaten tourism paths. They're not quite into full blown ethical tourism, but they do pay decent attention to the cultures they talk about. Destinations in this issue range from Pakistan to Etrusca to Tunisia to Providencia (look it up). They also review travel books for the budget-minded. (S-40t)

★★★★★

☐**THE GREAT SWAMP GAZETTE** Vol. 13 #6 ($1 (?) from 149 memorial Union, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, RI 02881): A collection of all manner of student writing from URI. They've got advice on avoiding computer viruses, a cyberpunkish SF story, Central America news, travel, anti-nuke graphics and more., The cover features the return of the Brady Bunch: "Harbringer of the Apocalypse? Or just another Groovy Tee Vee Family?" S-40t)

★★★★★

☐**GREAT TRIBAL FLASHBACKS** #1 ($1 (?) from PO Box 645, Silver Springs, FL 32688): A zine of reprinted material from the peak of the Hippie era. There's ads for headshops and movies, classic graffiti, posters and whatnot. Most are somewhat reduced and in black and white, but it's still a nice selection. (S-10)

★★★★★

GREEN LINE Vol. III #4 ($9/yr from PO Box 144, Asheville, NC 28802): An environmentally conscious local tabloid that also wanders into social issues, as with Marcus Endicott's coverage of the reforms in Czechoslovakia in this issue. They have a lot of material on recycling in this issue, plus ideas on avoiding new waste generation in the first place. (T-24t)

★★★★★

GREEN MULTILOGUE Vol. 4 #6 ($6 from 390 Jones Ave., Toronto, ONT, M4J 3G3, CANADA): A collection of writings by and about the members of the Green movement, mostly in Canada with some U.S. participants. At times the dialogue here is in danger of degenerating to babble, as people dash off in different directions, but there still seems to be some core of ideals being enunciated. (S-60)

★★★★★

GRIND Vol. 2 #9 (50¢ from Richard Green, PO Box 32, Old Bridge, NJ 08857): Green reviews movies of all types, from slasher stuff to current hits. He doesn't pull any punches, either; both *Leatherface* and *Everybody Wins* get panned in #9. (S-2)

★★★★★

THE GRINDHOUSE JOURNAL #8 ($1 from Vincent Basilicato, c/o Nevel Hotel Service Desk, Ellenville, NY 12428): GJ is centered on films, but it wanders off, sometimes to music and books, other times, as with Dave Szurek's essays, to odd corners of society. Meanwhile this issue includes an interview with Alyce Wittenstein and reviews of both of her feature films, Super 8 film loops, and a plug for a good arty theater. (D-28r)

★★★★★

THE GROOVY PIE #14 (On Request from Third Eye Publications, 1703 Princeton Ave., Lakewood, NJ 08701): A small litmag with primitive illustrations. This is the "Siberian Swimsuit" issue, though the theme doesn't seem to extend beyond the cover. Inside are short poems, an anti drugwar rant, and a story about a woman giving birth to a basketball. (D-12)

★★★★★

☐**GUARDIAN** Vol. 1 #1 ($10/4 issues from 4410 Massachusetts Ave. NW #122, Washington, DC 20016): A new literary and political magazine; it mixes analytical essays in with photos, short stories (both straightforward and experimental) and poetry. The Social Security system and Chief Seattle's message are among the political side in this premiere issue. (S-28t)

★★★★★

☐**THE HAMMER OF TRUTH** #7-8 (50¢ (?) from Jimmy Zero, PO Box 984, Gainesville, TX 76240): "An Official Publication of the National Cynicratic Party", this is politically- and news-oriented humor. #7 includes a piece of candy running for governor, the results of the Texas High School football playoffs (heavy with legal action) and an angry letter to a town that's banned pickup trucks. #8 mentions some new products for Yuppie Puppies, including intrauterine flashcards. (S-4)

★★★★★

HAPA #9 (Contact Joe Singer, PO Box 135, Harrison, ID 83833-0135): The title is an acronym for "Helpful Amateur Publishers' Association", and this is designed as a place for zinesters to swap useful information. Tips and tricks cover everything from home pasteup jobs to larger, typeset pubs. Most of the people contributing are a bit idiosyncratic, so you'll hear of ideas—some good, some bad—that don't make it to the pages of regular "how-to" books. (S-18)

★★★★★

THE HARDCORE #2a-2b ($4 from Scott Dorward, 1st Floor Flat, 212 Croydon Rd., Beckenham, Kent, BR3 4DE, ENGLAND): A litmag of violence, cyberpunk, and comics. There's a batch of short stories, most sort of shuddery with their portrayal of the future. The cyberpunk RPG merits a review, and drugs run through a couple of the comics. Colorful covers offset the somewhat light printing within. (A4-32)

★★★★★

☐**HARDCRY** #1 (25¢ & a stamp from Steven Cervantes, 16453 Richvale Dr., Whittier, CA 90604): "A Network Zine" with a social justice outlook. It opens with a quote fro Gandhi about insignificant actions being important. Inside most of the pages are filled with a chronology of recent events in Eastern Europe, though some reviews and recipes and stuff creep in around the edges. The cover is hand-painted on each issue. (D-16r)

★★★★★

HARVEST Vol. 10 #3-4 ($11/8 issues from PO Box 228, S. Framingham, MA 01701): A pagan journal that's been publishing all manner of stuff for a long time now. They do a good job of pulling out bits of interesting current events, keeping track of the pagan press, and otherwise networking. They also include articles on both theory and practice, as well as more opinionated pieces like the discussion of libertarianism and paganism here. I quite enjoyed the calendar reviews and notes on divination via runestaves in #3. (S-34t)

★★★★★

HEADLINES #19 ($1 from PO Box 5094, Winter Park, FL 32793-5094): One of the only consistently published SubGenius zines left, this one is primarily clippings, telling of the exploits of "Bob" and other Church phenomena, from the mainstream/conspiracy media. In this issue there's also a page of zine and stuff reviews, sort of a mini "Other Mutants". Keeping the faith alive. (S-12t)

★★★★★

HEADPUMP Art/Photo Comp. #1 ($1 from PO Box 93, Bronx, NY 10461): A collection of gruesome art and photos from the first 13 issues of **HEADPUMP**, a dark horror zine. There are rats and brains and skulls and intestines and other vomitous goodies in the drawings, and graveyards and decay in the photos. (D-24)

★★★★★

HEART CENTER KTC Vol. 1 #1 (Donation from 315 Marion Ave., Big Rapids, MI 49307): A newsletter for people in the Karma Thegsum Choling tradition of Buddhism in America. They are active in trying to preserve the teachings of Khenpo Karthar Rinpoche, and are also organizing a forum for those trying to integrate their practice with raising a family. Looks like a prime networking journal for far-flung travelers. (S-12t)

★★★★★

HEAT SEEKER #2 (50¢ from Glacier #43, SOSC, Ashland, OR 97520): A collection of stuff from the edges of society. There are a few reviews, a nasty page about the Marines, lizard resuscitation, an essay on the worth of using "dirty words", and more. (D-16r)

★★★★★

☐**HERITAGE QUEST** #25 ($30/yr from PO Box 40, Orting, WA 98360-0040): A fat perfect-bound research tool for the genealogist, whether amateur or professional. They have dozens of articles in each issue, touching on everything from the lineage of particular families to records from the Spanish-American war to how to track down Swedish ancestors. A tremendous number of resources, newsletters, libraries and so on are also listed. Obviously hunting ancestors is a much bigger industry than I had realized. (S-144t)

★★★★★

HERMIT CRaB #4 (30¢ or SASE from Carl Bettis, PO Box 32631, Kansas City, MO 64111): A selection of personal writings from Karl. There's a bit on his worklife, a bit on the sterility of some modern art, some of his dreams, and social justice essays. Some reprints are included apparently just because they're interesting. (S-4)

★★★★★

HILAIRE MODERNE #65 (2fr. from Eric Heilmann, 4 rue du 8 mai 45, 02260 La Capelle, FRANCE): A French-language zine of short reviews. It seems to emphasize mail art and similar projects, with an international but mostly European listing. However, it doesn't give contact addresses, which makes it a bit tougher to use. (D-12)

★★★★★

HOBO STEW REVIEW #22/23 ($2 from 2 Eliot St., Somerville, MA 02143): A sort of litmag that strikes off in its own directions. Unfinished parables and bits of life, drawings that mutate into words, things to ponder and responses to the drug war are all to be found in this issue. Very idiosyncratic. (S-15)

★★★★★

HOLY TITCLAMPS #4 ($1 from Boxholder, PO Box 3054, Minneapolis, MN 55403): A fanzine for the gay scene that's cheerfully irreverent and interested in having a good time, I enjoyed the academic cartoons from Michelle Rau, the extensive roundup of other gay zines, and the nightclub writeup "Fag City USA". (D-20t)

★★★★★

THE HOME CATACOMB Vol. 4 #1 ($18/6 issues from Spindrift, Inc., 2018 Shattuck Ave. #132, Berkeley, CA 94704): Spindrift is actively pursuing research to see whether the power of mind, through prayer or other means, can affect the material world. This issue reports on a controlled farming experiment, and begins a series on nurses in Christian Science. Well done and not gullible. (S-40t)

★★★★★

HOMELESS BRAGG RAG Jan.-Mar. 1990 (Donation from Homeless Coalition, 601 E. Montecito St., Santa Barbara, CA 93101): This one is apparently put out by homeless folks. It leads off with some news about which Southern California localities have been doing what to help or hurt the homeless lately, and then moves into a few pages of art and poetry. Overall it has a sort of hippie atmosphere to it. (L-8)

★★★★★

HOME POWER #15 ($6/6 issues from PO Box 130, Hornbrook, CA 96044): Yes, these folks are finally forced to charge for subscriptions, but if you're at all interested in getting off the electric grid, they're well worth the money. They talk about all manner of backwoods and small-scale generating systems, from PV to nano-hydro, and feature test results of actual systems. The letters show that they have a large and knowledgeable population of readers. (S-56t)

★★★★★

HOMOCORE #5-5 1/2 ($1 [no checks] from Tom Jennings, PO Box 77731, San Francisco, CA 94107): A zine for gay punks, male and female—though as in most other zines, there are more males involved. Lots of mail indicates that this is a much-needed watering hole. There's photos of homocore folks and events, Lawrence Livermore writing about the sixties, music and zine reviews, and a lot of activist opinion. Tom does a damned good job with this. #5 1/2 is a special "Bad Poetry" issue, two huge posters with graphics on one side and the contents of the poetry slush pile on the other, also a buck. (S-40t/O-4t)

★★★★★

THE HONEYWELL PROJECT CIRCULATOR Vol. 7 #3 ($20/yr from The Honeywell Project, 1929 S. Fifth St., Minneapolis, MN 55454): New from the folks who are trying to get Honeywell out of the weapons business through nonviolent civil disobedience. There's an inspiring story in this issue from a reporter who went to a demonstration to write about it and ended up joining in. (S-14t)

★★★★★

A HOUSE UNITED AGAINST ITSELF ($1 (?) from Rev. Etc., PO Box 02024, Columbus, OH 43202): This just surfaced after a long absence and is as mysterious as ever. Little bits of text and graphics jiggle through: animal sex, a collage of passing assassins, fractured history, spiritual thoughts. Culture put through a sieve. (D-16t)

★★★★★

HOUSEWIFE-WRITER'S FORUM Vol. 3 #1 ($4 from Deborah Haeseler, PO Drawer 1518, Lafayette, CA 94549): A magazine for women who write at home...while raising the kids and doing the housework. It's an eclectic mix of humor, markets, stories and tips on writing. They cover everything from greeting cards to true confessions to porn to womens' magazine writing, with a cheerful outlook on life and a lot of sharing. (D-40t)

★★★★★

HUDSON VALLEY GREEN TIMES Vol. 10 #1 ($15/yr from PO Box 208, Red Hook, NY 12571): An environmental journal for the Hudson River Valley. Most of this issue is devoted to energy efficiency and what it can do to help out the world. There's also continuing coverage of both solid waste problems and solutions. Pretty inspiring. (T-12t)

* * * * *

HUMANIST NEWS Vol. 4 #5-6 ($15/yr from Bernie Schatz, 4418 Josephine La., Robbinsdale, MN 55422-1328): The newsletter of the Twin Cities chapter of the American Humanist Association. They print notes on contradictions in the Bible, thoughts on correcting superstition, reviews and calendar material. (S-8t)

* * * * *

ICE RIVER #6 ($4 from 953 N. Gale, Union, OR 97883): A litmag with an eye towards fantastic and experimental writings. This time there's reviews and a short story from Misha, some literary theory from Richard Kostelanetz, and interesting poetry from Edward Mycue and Andrew Darlington—to name just a few pieces. They also review books, zines, music and other goodies from the literary underground and publish some neat art. It sings. (HL-60t)

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☐**IGOTS** #6 (Probably The Usual from Ned Brooks, 713 Paul St., Newport News, VA 23605): The title is an acronym for It Goes On The Shelf, and this is a random walk through Ned's mail and reading. He tends towards SF an obscurities, and his correspondents are mostly from the SF world, but there are exceptions. This issue includes a review of Black & Parfrey's **RANTS**, with excerpts from works that Brooks feel should have been included. (S-17)

* * * * *

THE IIIrd I #III ($1 from Bruce Salamandir-Feyrecilde, PO Box 2683, Bellingham, WA 98227-2683): An open forum for discussion of religion, spirituality, metaphysics and just about anything else. Subscribers ($10/4 issues) get the right to have two pages in every issue. Meanwhile, this one has lots of anti drug war stuff, a few pages on the esoteric meaning of Christmas and, for some reason, a spread of unintelligible computer nonsense. (D-28t)

* * * * *

INDUSTRIAL WORKER Vol. 86 #8-Vol. 87 #1 ($10/yr from IWW, 3435 N. Sheffield #202, Chicago, IL 60657): I don't know if the Industrial Workers of the World (the Wobblies, as you may know them) are undergoing a resurgence, but their newspaper sure looks good lately. They report on a lot of rank-and-file labor news and explain tirelessly their ideas about one big union, shop floor solidarity, and industrial democracy—rather inspiring, especially when compared to the Big Labor unions in the country today. Plenty of political and social action, on fronts form homelessness to prisons, creeps in as well. (T-8t)

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☐**THE INFINITE ONION** #1 ($1 (?) from Dave, 7559 Red Mountain Dr., Colorado Springs, CO 80920): A new zine of anarchy and attempts to get readers to think for themselves. Dave does a pretty good job of laying out his own beliefs, including where they are still a bit fuzzy. There are also comics and anti-racist art here. (D-36)

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☐**INFOCULT** #1 ($2 from Johnny Walsh, PO Box 3124, East Hampton, NY 11937): Strange news for the end times—indeed, one page here is filled with personal recollections of the Apocalypse, from childhood scares to urban folklore to the Jesus Freaks. There's an article on the Scientology-Elvis-Manson connection, reviews of bizarre books, and a couple of kook letters. A varied bag of interesting stuff. (T-8t)

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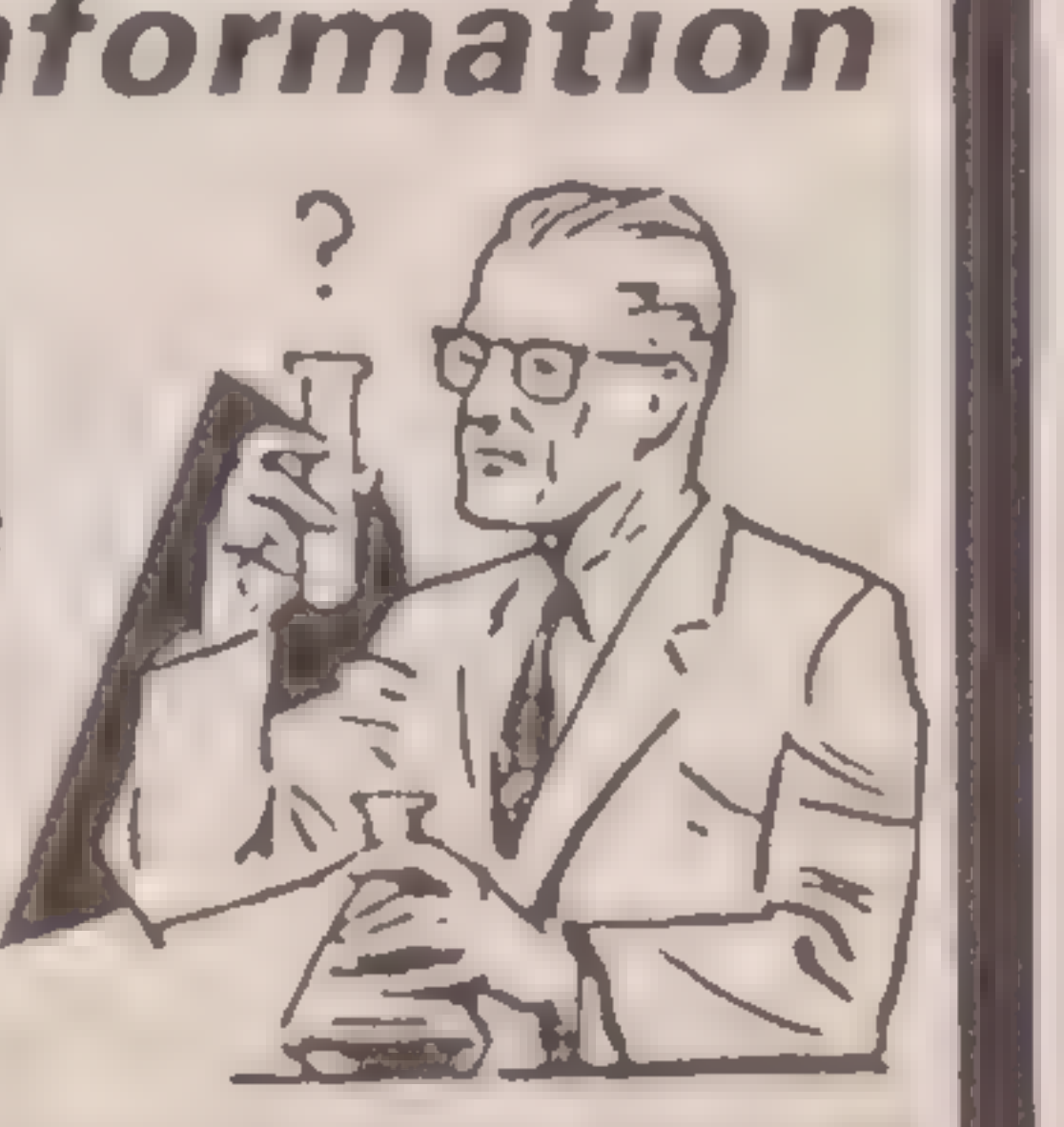

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INFO JOURNAL #58 ($4 from PO Box 367, Arlington, VA 22210-0367): The International Fortean Organization runs this sober journal devoted to the mysteries of the world. In addition to reprinted clippings and feature articles on such things as "The Mysterious Garden Beds of Michigan" (no,. it's not a joke) they're helping keep Charles Fort's memory alive. This issue contains one of Fort's short stories and a longish letter from Sam Moskowitz about Fort's literary output. (S-44t)

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INSIDE ENVIRONMENT Vol. 2 #1-2 ($15/yr from PO Box 13061, Lexington, KY 40583): A journal about solid waste which takes a decidedly unhysterical view of the situation. Their discussion of medical waste, for example, emphasizes the smallness of the problem in relation to the media response. #1 looks at a composting technology which makes sewage sludge safe for topping landfills with and talks about the economic benefits of hazardous waste reduction. #2 looks at radon now that the original scare has faded. (T-16t)

* * * * *

INSIDE JOKE #73 ($1.50 from Elayne Wechsler, PO Box 1609, Madison Sq. Sta., New York, NY 10159): A newsletter that digs into all the stray corners of popular culture, from movies to comics to TV commercials. Along the way there's zen instruction, cartoons from Ace Backwords and Phil Tortorici, cheerful letters, confusing stories, and plenty of opinion on the state of the world. A big happy family sort of zine. (S-30r)

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THE INSIDER GUN NEWS Vol. 4 #1-2/3 ($50/12 issues from The Gunpress Publishing Co., PO Box 2441, Merrifield, VA 22116): Editor John D. Aquilino continues to tell all about the gun industry and its critics, from mismanagement at the NRA to shenanigans over selecting a new pistol at the FBI. A good source of industry news and notes on gun control from a point of view most liberals seldom encounter. (S-4)

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INSTAURATION Vol. 15 #2-3 ($25/12 issues from Howard Allen Enterprises, PO Box 76, Cape Canaveral, FL 32920): A magazine for white Americans of Northern European descent who think that their culture is in desperate need of preserving. You'll find a lot of subjects that are often taboo in these pages, including questioning of the Holocaust and statistics on crime divided up by race. #2 labels Lee Atwater as the "Majority Renegade of the Year". #3 suggests that the current anti-Mencken backlash is overblown. (S-40T)

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INTERCEPTED Vol. 8 #17-Vol. 9 #1 (65¢ & 45¢ postage from Kay Shapero, 12536 Short Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90066): This one is tough to explain, but I'll try. It's written by subscribers, but rather than use their own names, they send short messages as or about members of the Addams Family, Star Trek folks, Cthulhu, strange sheep, and other mythical and media characters. The result is a grand muddle of fictional universes, hard to figure out, with an amazing amount of curious action going on. Also available on-line from StormGate Aerie, 213-822-6729.(S-10r)

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INTERNATIONAL ADVERTISER #27 ($3 from PO Box 182, A-1011 Vienna, AUSTRALIA): A collection of ads for people who want to make money through the mail. These range from the usual envelope-stuffers to talking watched for sale to people who will teach you to import autos to Japan or go after Arab money. Some of the offers are frankly unbelievable, though I have no doubt they all draw replies. (A4-14t)

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INTERRACIAL CLUB OF BUFFALO NEWSLETTER Feb. 1990 ($2 from PO Box 400, Amherst Branch, Buffalo, NY 14226): A monthly survey of media mentions of interracial families, together with support for such relationships. They notice books, magazine articles, movies and TV shows, and encourage people to help interracial children be proud of their lives. (S-9)

★★★★★

IN THE WORK #3 (On request from Globe Press Books, Inc., PO Box 2045, Madison Sq. Sta., New York, NY 10159): "The Work" refers to the practice of following the teachings of Gurdjieff and his successors Ouspensky and Nicoll. This newsletter hopes to network together the many people worldwide involved in one or another aspects of the work, and seems to be doing a good job. Requires some knowledge of what's going on before you can understand it, though. (S-4t)

★★★★★

□**INTI MAGAZINE** Vol. 1 #5 ($20/12 issues from PO Box 11452, Washington, DC 20008): One of my subscribers sent this in and it's interesting enough to mention even though I don't know what the heck is going on. One problem is that something over 50% of the magazine is in Spanish, and all of it appears to be esoteric or mystical in nature; even the English sections are full of "Hum! Moralist...Religious! You only want fire to cook or to put it out!". Who knows what's going on here? (S-26t)

★★★★★

INTIMATE PUBLICATIONS

All of the following are available from 5913 3/4 Willoughby #2, Los Angeles, CA 90038, for a donation. Here's a quote to sum up their approach to life: "You have ideas to torture us Christians? Go ahead. Kill us. We'll be back, reigning with Christ God, and then it's *your* turn, forever."

★★★★★

THE BLOOD Walpuris Night Issue-High Noon Issue : An aggressively Christian publication, moving from scriptural interpretation to new and explicitly militant philosophical ideas. Questions such as faith through works and predestination are tackled here. The High Noon Issue branches out to include an interview with Scott Cowgill of the Headless Marines. Also available separately is a single-page article that explains why masturbation is wrong. (L-16)

★★★★★

CAT PASTRAMI : This one is sort of a Christian graffiti zine. There's some poetry, some short evangelistic bits, slogans, music and zine reviews, and graphics here, all muddled together. Confusing and intricate.

★★★★★

DANCING DEFIANT : Subtitled "A Frontal Assault on the Lord of Anarchy", this is an aggressive chapbook of intolerant Christian poetry. Joel Barrow Cooper, who runs Intimate, lumps together neo-pagans, neo-Nazis, homosexuals, and New Agers, among others, as people to be railed against. If God is love, this is a mighty strange interpretation of that love. (L-52)

★★★★★

FIRSTBORN OF THE DEAD Jan. 1990 : This is apparently a flyer to be handed out at death rocker shows, urging a quick flight to church as the only way to salvation. It's got the skull to get their attention, and then lots of short bits to scare them into repentance. (L-2)

★★★★★

INTUITIVE EXPLORATIONS Vol. III #7-8 ($15/yr from PO Box 561, Quincy, IL 62306-0561): A sort of grassroots New Age journal. Dream interpretation, aromatherapy, numerology, astrology and more are all here. They have several columnists who will answer your questions from various points of view, and seem to concentrate quite a bit on karma in #8. (S-24)

★★★★★

□**IRISH GAZETTE** Vol. 4 #2 ($1 (?) from Elliott House Publishing, 245 E. 6th St., St. Paul, MN 55101): A selection of cultural and political news from and about Ireland. This issue includes some really stupid racist comments from Lord Hailsham, part of Britain's ruling class, plus other notes on the troubles, a travelogue from the Dingle Peninsula, and a few pages of Irish trivia. (T-8t)

★★★★★

THE IRRIGATION DITCH TIMES #5-6 (SASE from 810 Pine Cone Ln., Colonial Heights, VA 23834): A single page of somewhat sophomoric humor with occasional music references. It has silly poetry, small cartoons, and a few tasteless jokes. White Boy pops up in #6...he's everywhere, it seems. (S-1)

★★★★★

IRON FEATHER JOURNAL #9 ($1.50 from Steven Prothero, PO Box 1905, Boulder, CO 80306): A zine of hacking and anarchy, with much of the computer stuff being from the Commodore world. They print excerpts about explosives and drugs, files from various boards, and hints on hacking and living cheaply—plus cautionary words about the chances of getting caught. (D-40r)

★★★★★

□**IT'S IT** ($8/yr from PO Box 168, Vernon Hills, IL 60061): A small Doctor Who fanzine that's mostly devoted to articles on the show itself. In this issue the current Doctor gets a negative rating, while other writers discuss classic episodes and characters. Made for people who are deeply involved with the show. (D-12r)

★★★★★

□**IT'S ONLY THE BEGINNING** Jan./Feb. 1990 (SASE (?) from Box 1653, Hampshire College, Amherst, MA 01002): A newsletter from people for a Socially Responsible University, a group trying to convert the University of Massachusetts and other institutions over from military to socially-useful funding. Mostly it reports on local actions and protests. (S-4t)

★★★★★

□**ITXA VOICE** Vol. 1 #4-Vol. 2 #1 ($5.95/12 issues from PO Box 563, Abilene, KS 67410): A Native American publication that consists mainly of material reprinted from other publications, plus ads. It's put out by the "Kaweah Indian Nation", which claims to have lots of warriors out there keeping an eye on treasure hunters and the like. (S-4)

★★★★★

JAG Vol. 28 #2-3 (On request from R. S. Jaggard, MD, 10 E. Charles, Oelwein, IA 50662): Dr. Jaggard is an outspoken proponent of free enterprise, and for decades he's been issuing these braodsides. Increasingly he concentrates on the dangers of socialized medicine. #2 highlights some of his own practices, such as letting the patient help set the fees—and apparently it works, without government intervention. (L-1)

★★★★★

THE JED YARICK NEWSLETTER 12/15/89 ($2 from 2500 W. 6th #308, Lawrence, KS 66049): Jed is a college dude out in Lawrence, and when he thinks of it he keeps a sort of diary which becomes this newsletter. It's a medley of work and bars and picking up girls and speeding tickets and all the other things that make youth great. The last person to send money got his name smeared across the pages of this issue; could be your ticket to fame. (S-9)

★★★★★

JOKES

FUNNY PAGES #2-3 ($1 & SASE from 154 S. Hedges St., Dayton, OH 45403-2222): Ever have one of those days where you were sick and tired of being politically correct and socially acceptable? Well, this is a publication for such times. A collection of jokes, office humor and graffiti, it doesn't draw the line at anything, no matter how sexist, racist, or otherwise offensive. Dozens of nasty lines in every issue, along with a few more wholesome things. (S-10)

□**THE JUSTICE TIMES** Vol. 21 #1 ($35/12 issues from PO Box 479, American Fork, UT 84003): A conservative paper which argues that we're not respecting the Constitution enough and had better get back to traditional values. But they also carry lots of news that's worth reading about—troops used in a domestic drug raid, a court case that went against the IRS, and more. I find some of their stands maddening but they're argued intelligently. On the other hand their rabid red-baiting and homophobia isn't real attractive. (T-16t)

★★★★★

THE KANSAS INTELLIGENCER Vol. 4 #2 ($12/yr from 5524 Anderson Ave., Manhattan, KS 66502): A monthly combination of diatribes and essays from a conservative point of view. #2 denounces the Green Party as being statists, and suggests taking a hard line against any country that takes hostages. (L-2t)

★★★★★

KA-POW ($2 (?) from Dave Ricker, 250 Floral Ln., Woodridge, NJ 07075): A confusing medley of collage, drawings, rantings and who knows what else. There are some stories here, about traveling for the summer and being abducted by aliens, but they tend to get lost in the sheer xerographic overload. Dave also has a number of smaller pamphlets in the same style available. (S-17)

★★★★★

□**KETTLE OF FISK #1** (SASE & 5¢ from afungusboy, PO Box 134, Brockport, NY 14420): A small zine of collage with a few poem/word things, one with half its words lined out. The writer says it represents his world...obviously the buzzing blooming confusion is just a bit too much for him. (MM-8)

★★★★★

KICK IT OVER #25 ($7.50/4 issues from PO Box 5811, Sta. A, Toronto, ONT, M5W 1P2, CANADA): An anarchist journal with a special focus on sort of a soft, alternative worldview, invoking feminist, ecological and process concerns. John Englehart writes about small group process in this issue, Jennifer Sands tackles what's missing in both the anarchists and the Quakers, and Jon Reed looks at the situation in Guatemala. There are other world affairs articles and an essay on fashion which avoids the usual "fashion is fascism" line. (T-24t)

★★★★★

KIDSCIENCE Vol. 5 #4 ($2 from 2215 Doswell Ave., St. Paul, MN 55108): A newsletter directed at elementary school science teachers, and others who might be teaching science to kids—homeschoolers take notes. Each issue is a mix of activities on specific areas; this time around it's edible plants, plus a few electricity experiments. A lot of this still looks like fun to me. (S-24)

★★★★★

KILLBABY #3 ($3 from PO Box 742, Sta. Q, Toronto, ONT, M4T 2N5, CANADA): Mostly a film zine, although they do branch out to review some strange music and printed matter as well. They've got cannibal flicks, lots of imports, Doctor DeathUdo, and lots of other goodies here. Crad Kilodney contributes a review of Toronto's all-star beggars. A lot of words for the money. (D-74t)

★★★★★

KILLER KUNG-FU ENEMA NURSES ON CRACK #2 ($2 from Peter Hassall, PO Box 27432, Upp. Willis St., Wellington, NEW ZEALAND): A wild movie zine from someone who does indeed seem to be fascinated by all of the title subjects. With deep blue covers, this issue has an underwater theme, with the reviews and clippings focused on flicks like "Around the World Under the Sea" and "Barracuda". Includes some free Batman trading cards. (A4-24)

★★★★★

KOOKS #5 ($4 from Donna Kossy, PO Box 953, Allston, MA 02134): A collection of articles examining some of the more wedged people in our society today, plus tracts, rants, and posters from the kooks themselves. There's a look here at rock and roll haters by Johnny Marr and one at the prison kook by Wayne Henderson (the latter promises to be the start of a series). Also included are flying amoeboids, the death of the Numbers Man, and a smattering of book reviews. (S-28t)

KREATURE COMFORTS
J.J. WALKER
POPTARTS
COMICS
FLEXI WITH
"A BAND CALLED BUD"
"THE MARTINI AGE"
$3.00 CASHISH
1916 MADISON AVE.
MEMPHIS,TN 38104

★★★★★

KREATURE COMFORTS Vol. III #1 ($3 from 1916 Madison Ave., Memphis, TN 38104): A nice slab of popular culture of all sorts. This issue includes a flexidic with a couple of local bands (check out "A Band Called Bud", "70s nostalgia, a look at the wonders of Pop Tarts, and more. Live music and comics also pop up, along with plans for trading cards in a future issue. (S-16)

★★★★★

KULTCHA #132 ($1/5 issues from PO Box 5498, Atlanta, GA 30307): #132 is a self-referential wall newspaper, in which Kerry Thornley explains the theory and practice of wall newspapers as he understands it. Most of the time this occasional broadside is devoted to religious and artistic ideas, though you never know what might sneak in next. (S-1)

★★★★★

□**LAUGHING PHOTON** (SASE from 1117 Ferris Dr., Novato, CA 94945): A desktop-published sheet of art criticism and reviews, concentrating on popular culture, and featuring a hologram in every issue. They also pass on a bit of interesting publishing news in this issue, about a new effort to put out an opposition paper in South Africa. (S-2t)

★★★★★

LEFT BUSINESS OBSERVER #35-36 ($2 from 250 W. 85 St., New York, NY 10024-3217): A look at business and the economy from a somewhat radical stance. #35 is mostly occupied by an examination of the economy of the Soviet Union, trying to go beyond the simple-minded assumption that communism is breaking down—they pick up on some of the successes as well as the failures of the Soviet system. #36 has more perestroika and a look at South Korea. (S-8t)

★★★★★

THE LEIGHTON LOOK Jan. 1990 (Sample on request from Rodney Leighton, RR#3, Pugwash, NS, B0K 1L0, CANADA): Rodney is working on making this the Canadian equivalent of **FACTSHEET FIVE**, with lots of reviews that don;t necessarily overlap mine. He's also willing to write reviews for anyone else who needs them. If I flake out this is probably the best hope for the small press to get publicized, so support him now. (S-10)

★★★★★

THE LENNOX REPORT Vol. II #3-6 ($2 from PO Box 1271, FDR Sta., New York, NY 10150): "The Green Sheet", this one issues weekly reports on the state of the stock market, which is then analyzed by a proprietary system. The result is advice on whether to be in puts or calls or neither or both. (D-4r)

★★★★★

THE LETTER EXCHANGE #20 $5 from PO Box 6218, Albany, CA 94706): The prime way I know of to find nifty people to write letters to. They offer a blind forwarding service with hundreds of witty listings in every issue. LEX also publishes letters about letters and cute cartoons. It worked for me—subscribe and it'll work to fill your mailbox too. (D-36t)

★★★★★

THE LETTER PARADE Feb. 1990 ($10/yr from PO Box 52, Comstock, MI 49041): A selection of letters and news clippings and chat from Bonnie's. There's a page of Pagan Kennedy comics here, a couple of letters from folks who lived through the San Francisco earthquake, and notes on making do rather than spending money. Rural-seeming chitchat that's relaxing to read. (S-10)

★★★★★

LETTRE DOCUMENTAIRE #2-5 (50fr./12 issues from Philippe Billé, BP 249, 33012 Bordeaux, FRANCE): A French-language zine of mail art and other modern artistic concerns. In these issues there is much material pertaining to the Art Strike. Mailed with them were translations of YAWN's "Confession in Support of the Art Strike" translated into French and Spanish. (A5-4r)

★★★★★

LEUKEMIA, ANYONE? Jan. 1990 (SASE from Albert Eglash, 1121 Laurel Ln., San Luis Obispo, CA 93401): A newsletter of "information, opinion, human interest, and humor" centered among people with leukemia. There's some stuff on recovering from the disease, as well as poetry, cartoons, birthday greetings, and other hopeful stuff. (S-8)

★★★★★

THE LIBERTARIAN FAMILIST Vol. 9 #1 (On request from 5205 Fairbanks Dr. #4, El Paso, TX 79924): A newsletter of childrens' rights, abortion issues, and other topics of interest to those who would promote the family as the core of society. They tend to be rather academic in tone, although recently letter-column abortion debates have been spicing things up a bit. (S-8t)

★★★★★

□**LINKS** Vol. 2 #2 ($5/6 issues from 735 Wolseley Ave., Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3G 1C4, CANADA): A networking journal with interests in a variety of social justice concerns. Feminist reaction to the Montreal mass murder, South & Cetral American concerns, and the gift economy all go by here. A good feeling pervades. (S-20t)

★★★★★

□**LITERARY CENTER QUARTERLY** Winter 1989-90 ($15/yr from PO Box 85116, Seattle, WA 98145-1116): A newsletter for writers in the Northwest which maintains a very grassroots feel. There's a great letter here from Kirby Olson on the myopia of funding agencies and a roundtable on government art support and censorship including responses from Ken Kesey and Ursula K. LeGuin. They also print short works and review longer ones. (S-24t)

★★★★★

LITERARY MARKETS #50 ($12/yr from PO Drawer 1310, Point Roberts, WA 98281-1310): A listing of small press markets that are accepting work. It's broken down into sections for magazines, updates, contests and special projects, anthologies, and theme issues. Not an overwhelming amount of stuff here, but a persistent writer should be able to mine it. (S-6)

★★★★★

LITTLE SKULL'S BAY-BEE #13 (25¢ postage from Carrie, 833 1/3 N. Formosa, Hollywood, CA 90046): The core of this zine is the opinions page, where Carrie asks a batch of people to respond on topics and prints what they say. This time it's caffeine and band reunions that get discussed. There's also a cool little comic on how to be a death rocker. (M-8)

★★★★★

LIVING FREE #55 ($1.25 from Jim Stumm, PO Box 29, Hiler Branch, Buffalo, NY 14223): A newsletter concerned with freedom and self-sufficiency. Evading the government, making venison jerky, the rapid political changes in Eastern Europe, all get mentioned here. Much of this is conducted as a dialogue with readers, who seem to be an active and idiosyncratic bunch. (S_8r)

★★★★★

LIZZENGREASY Vol. 1 #2 ($1 from c/o Fletcher, Shuhoso #8B, Umegaoka 1-56-4, Setagaya-Ku, Tokyo 154, JAPAN): "A magazine of living in foreign places", this one takes its place in international zine culture while also celebrating Japan. This is the "Food" issue, with recipes suited to toaster ovens (no room for a full-size oven in a Japanese apartment) and the strange story of a fish-worshipping cult on the bands of the Mississippi. They also review zines, music, and classic paperback books. (S-12r)

★★★★★

LOAFING THE DONKEY #30 ($1 from Peter Mantis, 123 Stonewall #1, Memphis, TN 38104): A bombardment of reviews and popular culture, both underground and otherwise. This issue has some things to say about the Batman movie, looks at tapes from labels like Harsh Reality and Whitewall, and discusses some current movies. Elvis, of course, pops up, as does another Memphis zine. (D-24)

★★★★★

LOCAL ZINE #7 ($1 from 3579 La Primavera, Thousand Oaks, CA 91360): A zine of (mostly) photos of skateboarders, with a few bits of text thrown in as well. Jeremy Traub supplies some nifty low-angle fisheye lens shots for this issue, to go with the more normal pics. (D-24)

★★★★★

LOLA FISH #3-4 (3 IRCs from B. Pommey, 36 res. Jean Mace, 28300 Mainvilliers, FRANCE): A mini of mail art, reviews and listings. Bruno prints a few small works, and reviews an international cast of magazines, networks, and participants. He also provides a list of forthcoming shows. (M-16r)

★★★★★

LONGEVITY REPORT #19 ($23/6 issues from J. de Rivaz c/o Longevity Books, West Towan House, Porthtowan, Truro, Cornwall, TR4 8AX, UK): A cryonics and life extension newsletter which presents a mix of short articles and letters from readers. There's quite a bit on the economics of suspension in #19, along with some comments on possible legal battles to protect the right to be frozen. (A4-22t)

★★★★★

LONG SHOT #9 ($5 from PO Box 6231, Hoboken, NJ 07030): A well-done literary magazine that seems to feature more than the usual amount of sex (no porn) and death...plus a few piece sin tribute to the late Abbie Hoffman. Among the contributors are Allen Ginsberg and Charles Bukowski, but I found the strongest voices to be those of a pair of new (to me, anyway) poets: Danielle Willis and Mallory Millett. Lots of strong work here. (D-121t)

★★★★★

THE LOST PERUKE Jan.-Feb. 1990 ($1.25 from PM Kellerman, PO Box 1525, Highland Park, NJ 08904): A small humor magazine that focuses in on current events. January is their annual year in review issue, anchored by the listing of the 20 most annoying people of 1989 (Jesse Helms makes #1). February has a fun satire on the Personality Parade column that leads off a rather well-known Sunday magazine. (D-34)

★★★★★

□**LOVE AND RAGE** Vol. 1 #1 ($1 from PO Box 3, Prince St. Sta., New York, NY 10012): This new "revolutionary anarchist newsmonthly" chooses to lead off its first issue with an article on South Africa—as if anarchists had anything to do with events there. This sets the tone for the paper, which supports the notion that the Revolution is just around the corner worldwide—if only we can get the "fighting movement" they support. Some of the news here, particularly the Eastern Bloc section coordinated by Bob McGlynn, is timely and well-reported. But much of the rest, in form and content, seems very close to being yet another tedious leftist paper looking for parades to get in front of. [Note: I am probably not capable of writing an unbiased review of **L&R**, due to longstanding antagonisms with the people behind it.] (T-20t)

★★★★★

THE MADISON INSURGENT Vol. 3 #15-18 ($15/yr from PO Box 704, Madison, WI 53701): A collectively-published radical newspaper that covers a lot of stories. In #15 the hot issue is the shaky coalition trying to toss ROTC off the UW campus. #18 has one of the few bits of Greyhound strike coverage I've seen with details on what the drivers are paid. (T-8t)

★★★★★

A MADMAN'S DREAM #2 (75¢ from Aartvark, 6934 Calvin Ave., Reseda, CA 91335): A zine of social justice, music, and whatnot. There's an opening essay on hippiness from a second-generation hippie, plus a report on getting busted at a CD action by the LAPD. White Boy sneaks in here, as do Rex Havoc and the Jesus and Mary Chain. There's also space for animal rights and boycotts. (S-10)

★★★★★

□**MAILFEASANCE** #1 (SASE from Matthew F. Porter, 84 Jefferson Rd., Farmingdale, NY 11735): A new journal for the weird information junkie. Matthew provides a few listings of his own, but mostly he's interested in providing up-to-date addresses for folks who have moved since their inclusion in **HIGH WEIRDNESS BY MAIL** or **FACTSHEET FIVE**. A valuable service, and probably soon a place to ask for help as to the location of missing kooks. (S-3)

★★★★★

MALCONTENT #23 ($2.50 from Laura Poll, PO Box 703, Navesink, NJ 07752): A literary journal that tries to maintain a friendly feeling towards its readers. They skate around the edges, with this issue including a selection of drawings by Walt Phillips, a long and curious play by Jack Moskovitz, and one of Paul Weinman's books complete with a critical essay by Alan Catlin. (S-50)

★★★★★

MAINSTREAM Vol. 21 #1 ($20/yr from API, PO Box 22505, Sacramento, CA 95822): The Animal Protection Institute is more willing than some animal righs groups to push for reforms as well as revolution; their article on the chick industry in this issue pushes for regulation rather than vegetarianism. They also look at the status of African wildlife and report on their latest PR efforts on behalf of animals. (S-40t)

* * *

MANNEQUIN SOCIETY #5 (Sttamps/donation from John Six, Nonoxynol-9, PO Box 7792, Rego Park, NY 11374): A collage of images from modern life, including but not limited to several mannequins. The news here is mostly bad, full of death and depravity. There's also a short story and a free mannequin sticker. (D-20r)

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□**MANUFACTURE** (75¢ from 249-2 Edwards St., Binghamton, NY 13901): A mini of punk culture and opinion, more or less. #1 goes after Ray from Youth of Today for turning Krishna, while #2 complains about homelessness—while also presenting a graffiti'd picture of the queen and a poem/lyric called "simple". (M-8)

* * *

□**MAREN'S MALARKEY** Vol. 2 #1 (50¢ from PO Box 220035, Milwaukie, OR 97222-9035): This seems to be what the SF folks call a "lettersub"—i.e., a substitute for letters, sent to friends. Maren collects all sorts of eternal wisdom, rules of thumb and, ye, malarkey, and puts is all together. Now she's going big (or at least bigger) time, making it available to see if her wit attracts people. Well, I like it, and I think many of you would too. (S-6t)

* * *

MARSHMALLOW SOUP (75¢ from Ken Wagner, 511 W. Sullivan, Olean, NY 14760): This is also **STORYZINE** #2, in addition to its individual title. It's five short stories from Ken, most of which are the prose equivalent of doggerel: nice incidents told humorously, but without a lot of substance. I did enjoy "True Calling", which takes a cliche to new extremes. (M-16r)

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MAST Jan. 1990 ($16/4 issues from RB Publishing Company, 6400 Gisholt Dr. #208, Madison, WI 53713-4800): "For mailing and shipping professionals", this is a slick journal mostly aimed at people who run mailrooms for large corporations. But there are bits of it useful even to moderate-volume mailers like myself; in particular, there's lots of stuff here about coming postal rate increases, 11-digit Zip Codes, and similar things to worry about. (S-68t)

* * *

MAXIMAPHILY Vol. 9 #1 ($7/yr from Gary Denis, PO Box 11447, Norfolk, VA 23517): This is for folks who collect maximum cards—as near as I can make out, that means postcards where the card, the stamp and the cancellation share a theme. For example, you might have a picture of a building on a stamp stuck on a postcard of the same building and canceled in the city where it is. (S-12)

* * *

MAX(ine)'S TWO PAGES Feb. 1990 ($1 from Crystal Rain Agency, PO Box 866, Manchester, GA 31816): A small zine of small-town reflections on life. Maxine works with local law enforcement personnel, and often portrays the human side of their jobs. An obstreperous rooster also gets a few words in this issue. (S-2)

* * *

□**MDMC NEWSLETTER** #1 (SASE from Invert, PO Box 110, Stillwater, ME 04489): A new publication from Maine Draft and Military Counselors, a group which is already organizing to meet the expected shift to a renewed draft or National Service plan in the early nineties. This premiere issue lays out some ideas on restricting military recruiting in school and has some basic questions for anyone thinking of enlisting. (S-4)

* * *

MEASURES OF CENTRAL TENDENCY #3 ($4 from David Ross, 1341 Williamson t., Madison, WI 53703): A collection of mail art, collages, newords, poetry, rants and other artistic material from the fringes. David has collected an all-star cast, with contributions from malok and Geof Huth and Jake Berry and other strange folks. Looseleaf, so you can throw it across the room and be interested by the new juxtapositions. (S-40)

* * *

□**THE MELTING POT** Vol. 1 #1 (On Request from PO Box 13642, Arlington, TX 76094): The new zine of the Dallas-Ft. Worth area chapter of Anti-Racist Action, a scene-based group formed to fight against Nazi and other far right skinheads—"boneheads" as they are sometimes called. They print a lot of short news bits about right wing activities and a few notes on counterplans. (S-8t)

* * *

□**MEMES** #2 ($3 from Fla 10, Sinclair Court, Park Road, Moseley, Birmingham, UK): A literary zine with a wider idea than entertainment; they want to inject a few ideas into the future as well. As a result poetry and prose start the definition but do not finish it; there are essays on Magick and PK Dick, short aphorisms, and reviews as well. I enjoyed this issue; there's an open feel to it which is quite engaging. (A5-36r)

* * *

MESSAGE POST Feb. 1990 ($1 from PO Box 190, Philomath, OR 97370): A watering hole for those who are into long-term camping, portable dwelling, "living lightly" and similar things, They pass on lots of helpful hints, on everything from food to shelter to medicine, and have contact information for a bunch of other newsletters and magazines, plus their own series of article reprints. (D-20r)

* * *

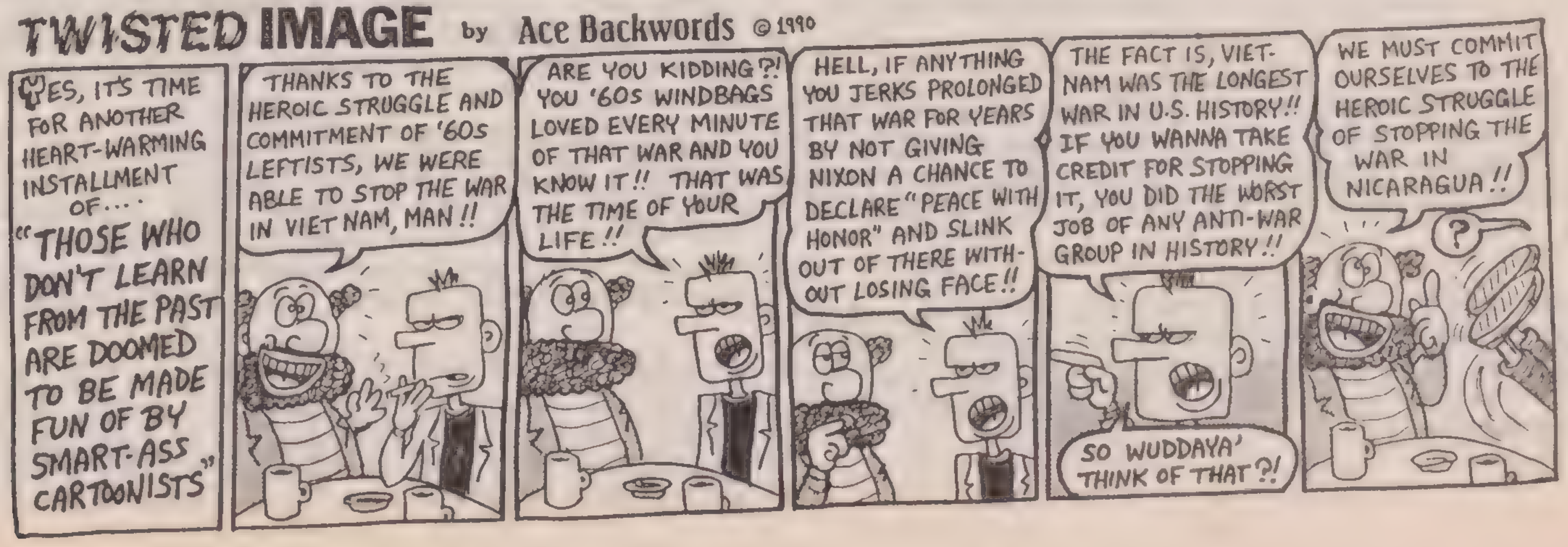
□**MESSIAH** #12 ($1 (?) from Jef Williams, PO Box 10035, Winston-Salem, NC 27108): "The Sex, Politics and Religion Journal of the Jef Fan Club", this one is devoted to whatever Jef wants to rant about., In this issue, that includes a somewhat ignorant slam against animal rights, an interview with Biran Hamill of Granite City, and thoughts on whether Ronald McDonald is a pedophile. He also notes that he's seen Rocky Horror 342 times by now. (S-6)

* * *

MEZLIM Vol. 1 #1 ($4 from N'Chi, PO Box 19566, Cincinnati, OH 45219): A journal of magick with a fine-arts look and careful, scholarly writing. They discuss everything from the reception of the Thelemic current by Crowley to modern workings involving crystals and sex magic. They are also interested in cutting-edge stuff; computer BBS notes form several pages of thought here. An impressive collection, even to an outsider. (S-56t)

* * *

□**MGM** Jan.-Mar. 1990 (Donation from PO Box 1124, Keene, NH 03431): The title is an acronym for "Monadnock Gay Men", and this is a short calendar and information sheet for gays in the New


TWISTED IMAGE by Ace Backwords ©1990
YES, IT'S TIME FOR ANOTHER HEART-WARMING INSTALLMENT OF.... "THOSE WHO DON'T LEARN FROM THE PAST ARE DOOMED TO BE MADE FUN OF BY SMART-ASS CARTOONISTS"
THANKS TO THE HEROIC STRUGGLE AND COMMITMENT OF '60s LEFTISTS, WE WERE ABLE TO STOP THE WAR IN VIET NAM, MAN!!
ARE YOU KIDDING?! YOU '60s WINDBAGS LOVED EVERY MINUTE OF THAT WAR AND YOU KNOW IT!! THAT WAS THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE!!
HELL, IF ANYTHING YOU JERKS PROLONGED THAT WAR FOR YEARS BY NOT GIVING NIXON A CHANCE TO DECLARE "PEACE WITH HONOR" AND SLINK OUT OF THERE WITHOUT LOSING FACE!!
THE FACT IS, VIETNAM WAS THE LONGEST WAR IN U.S. HISTORY!! IF YOU WANNA TAKE CREDIT FOR STOPPING IT, YOU DID THE WORST JOB OF ANY ANTI-WAR GROUP IN HISTORY!!
SO WUDDAYA' THINK OF THAT?!
WE MUST COMMIT OURSELVES TO THE HEROIC STRUGGLE OF STOPPING THE WAR IN NICARAGUA!!
?

Hampshire area. They publish horrifying letters to the editor of the local paper and news of community events. (S-2)

★★★★★

MICHAEL JOURNAL Jan./Feb. 1990 ($20/24 issues from Rougemont, PQ, J0L 1M0, CANADA): It's been a few years since I've seen this one, but it's as feisty in its political-economic-religious commentary as ever. This issue takes on the General Sales Tax (or, as they call it, the Great Satanic Tax) the Canadian government is trying to put through, enumerating reasons why it is a terrible idea. (T-4t)

★★★★★

MICROWAVE NEWS Vol. X #1 ($250/6 issues from PO Box 1799, Grand Central Sta., New York, NY 10163): A serious set of abstracts of current research on non-ionizing radiation, with special attention to the possible effects of low-level electric and magnetic fields on human health. They give references for everything, and it's a bit scary to note that the research results are looking more real all the time. (S-16t)

★★★★★

MILLION YEAR PICNIC #2 ($1 (?) from PO Box 21311, Santa Barbara, CA 93121): There's some music here (like the report on a PIL show), but that's only part of a much wider scene. They also give a basic history of comics, interview a waitress, and go in search of "the perfect martini" (so far the best they've found is at a biker bar, which may tell you something. Also poetry and art. (D-24r)

★★★★★

□**MILQUETOAST** #1 (SASE from Jeffery Kennedy, 555 O'Farrell #103, San Francisco, CA 94102): A new minizine which follows on the heels of Jeffery's previous **BOYSVILLE USA**. It's a collage of images from the more mass media, some from teen girls magazines, others from classic sex books, others from today's gay world, which is sort of his home base. Fashion for happy young boys. (L-2)

★★★★★

□**MINDLESS CONFUSION** #2 (75¢ from Chris O'Brien, 791 Cornwall Rd., State College, PA 16803): A medley of just about anything that Chris is interested in. This includes record and film reviews, a couple of pages of comics, free classifieds, an essay on apathy and a page of poetry. There's a short story, a report on a tasteless frat party, and some photos. Looking for more folks to add to the stew. (S-20t)

★★★★★

MIND MATTERS REVIEW #4 ($12/yr from 2040 Polk St. #234, San Francisco, CA 94109): "A forum for discussion on the politics of mind", this is mostly philosophical theorizing by editor Carrie Drake. I am afraid I find most of Drake's prose to be rather impenetrable, which may be my own failing, but does not lead to lucid review. Homophobia, democracy, and the conflict between individual and mass society are some of the topics here. (S-60)

★★★★★

□**MIND X** #1-2 (50¢ & Age Statement from 440 N. Water St., Lancaster, PA 17603): A strange collage of sex, stories, song lyrics and cultural flotsam. The printing quality is pretty miserable on some pages, leading to a certain amount of eyestrain, but with patience you can puzzle it all out. Or rather, you can puzzle the words out; the intent may remain mysterious. (D-20)

★★★★★

MINI EXAMINER Vol. 11 #22 ($1 from Irene Hamlen Stephenson, PO Box 3893, Chatsworth, CA 91313): There must be other folks doing biorhythm analysis, but I don't know of any. Irene will be happy to do such an analysis for you for a fee; the newsletter demonstrates what she's about, by peering into the lives of famous people base don their birthdates. (S-4)

★★★★★

□**MISS FITS FREE PRESS** #1 (Donation from Food Stamp Gallery, 107 Havemeyer St. #33, Brooklyn, NY 11211): A collection of stories, poems and other artwork from folks in opposition to the current system. Poems address the invasion in Panama and the me-ism of the Eighties; there's a story, or vignette, on the problems of childrearing, and a freedom-oriented collage. Looks promising. (HL-8r)

★★★★★

MONETARY FREEDOM Vol. 1 #3/4 ($3 from John Zube, 7 Oxley St., Berrima, NSW 2577, AUSTRALIA): A collection of notes and bibliographical references on the idea of free banking, under which people are free to choose what monetary standards to accept. The price includes a couple of microfiche—your choice—from John's extensive collection on the subject. (A5-8r)

★★★★★

THE MONITOR Mar. 1990 ($25/yr from CDR, PO Box 50469, Atlanta, GA 30302-0469): The Center for Democratic Renewal is a broadly-based group in the South which keeps an eye on and fights against the various preachers of hate and racism in this country. Their focus is on the various far right churches, the KKK, and the skinheads; although they are not always good at the fine points of who is and is not a racist, their general information is usually both scary and interesting. (S-8t)

★★★★★

□**MONKEYWRENCH** #1 ($2 from PO Box 92007, Santa Barbara, CA 93190-2007): A new journal for those radically opposed to the system. It's got facts and figures on apartheid, Bush's budget antics, boycotts, neat organizations to contact, and more. Special attention is given to graphics which pack a message into a quick punch. (HL-20t)

★★★★★

□**MONSTERS 'N' MOVIES** #1 (25¢ & SASE from Paul R. Plaisance, 716 Penn Ave/ NE #5, Atlanta, GA 30308): Paul likes monster movies, but he doesn't like gore. Rather, he's into the classics, from the fifties through the seventies. The first issue reviews some remakes and includes a "Robot Monster" mini-poster reproduction. (S-5)

★★★★★

THE MONTHLY INDEPENDENT TRIBUNE TIMES JOURNAL POST GAZETTE NEWS, CHRONICLE BULLETIN #63 (50¢ *Cash/Stamps* from 2510 bancroft Way #207, Berkeley, CA 94704): Yes, it's back, with wild humor, strangely non—linear stories, and Denver Tucson's cartoons (not to mention the longest title I regularly end up referring to). If you never tried this monthly humor zine way back when, send for the new, not improved but just as good as ever version now. (D-8r)

★★★★★

THE MONTHLY MEANDER Vol. 2 #8/9 (Donation from Mike Gunderloy, 6 Arizona Ave., Rensselaer, NY 12144-4502): I'm going to put out a few more issues of this "newsletter of evolutionary anarchists" before I pass it along to another publisher, so you can still get one from me if you hurry. We're an open forum for those who hope to achieve an anarchist society through gentle, educational, evolutionary means, written by the readers. (S-4t)

★★★★★

□**MOON** Vol. II #1 ($10/yr from IWPM, PO Box 924, Springfield, MO 65802): The IWPM is Independent Wiccan/Pagan Ministries, a networking group drawing together several new faiths. Unfortunately their area is also full of extremist Christian hate groups, which they have to use up energy responding too. It's not all local politics, though, as they talk about events in the pagan community, balance, ritual, and print a kid's page. (S-20)

★★★★★

□**MOTHERFUCKER** Menhaden Issue ($3 from TBS Publications, 5414 Columbus Ave., Sandusky, OH 44870): "The Journal of the Mama Art Movement", this one seems to be in part a reactions to the Art Strike. Don't worry, though, as they print "fine crafts" rather than art and so are not scabs. They also print manifestos, strange interviews, collages, and other bits of underground and photocopy culture. (S-25)

★★★★★

□**THE MOUTH OF SAURON** Vol. 5 #17 (IRCs from Mark Nelson, 21B.1 Eastwood, The University, Claverton Down, Bath, BA2 7JX, ENGLAND): A Diplomacy zine which is bursting with various goodies—games being played, waiting lists for future games, press from players, a subzine or two, and articles on hot topics like lying. It's not much to look at, but pulls together a fair chunk of stuff on the hobby. (A5-16r)

★★★★★

MSRRT NEWSLETTER Vol. 3 #1-2 (45¢ SASE from Chris Dodge/Jan DeSIrey, 4645 Columbus Ave. S, Minneapolis, MN 55407):

These folks scan the periodical literature for material of interest to forward-looking librarians; they're affiliates with the Minnesota Library Association Social Responsibilities Round Table. Inside there are capsule reviews of a fair number of newsletters and journals, many not covered here, most with a vaguely political flavor. They also print little bits of socially responsible library news. (S-16)

★★★★★

MURMURING MEMORIES #1 ($1 from Cia, 2505 Jewett Rd., Garberville, CA 95440): First things first—Cia asks that you not put the zine name on the envelope when you write. This is a collection of personal writing, short stories, meditations on the world, lots of unanswered questions from someone who is obviously growing up with strong alternative ideas. The style is a bit rocky but feelings and emotions shine through and that's what counts with me. I enjoyed this, and respect anyone who can pour so much life out on the page. Handwritten with marginal doodles on most pages. (D-56)

★★★★★

MUSEUM INSIGHTS Vol. 2 #2 ($28/6 issues from PO Box 313, North Amherst, MA 01059): A newsletter for people who love museums and want to find out about more of them. This issue is focused on the rather obscure Nicholas Roerich Museum in New York City, which apparently houses some lovely art. Other exhibits, fixed and traveling, get short notices—museums ranging from paperweights to poppies (as in painted, by O'Keefe) get into this issue. (S-8t)

★★★★★

MY EYE #3 ($1 (?) from 6816 Jackson, Warren, MI 48091): A collection of strange humor, poetry, and art. Safety Guy has a lot of bizarre tips (many centering on what not to leave lying around the crib) while a blueprint on another page shows how to make a lighted clown nose. There is a drawing of Cher in lingerie and some poetry, as well as a silk-screened sticker that says "Wow". (D-20)

★★★★★

THE MYSTERY FANCIER Vol. 11 #3-4 ($25/yr from Guy M. Townsend, 407 Jefferson St., Madison, IN 47250): A forum for quiet discussion of the mystery genre, mostly by people who know it quite well. Besides a large number of reviews, there are nice feature articles here, keyed for the bibliophile: "Boardinghoue Novels: A Preliminary Checklist" in #3, for example. #4 includes more literary howlers in "Further Gems From the Literature" by William F. Deeck and a consideration of the popularity of James Bond. (D-104t)

★★★★★

NAAPM NEWSLETTER #42 ($10/4 issues from 2735 Benvenue #3, Berkeley, CA 94705): The newsletter of the National Association for the Advancement of Perry Mason. Most of this issue is taken up by a long interview with Seeleg Lester, story editor and producer for many of the TV episodes. (D-20r)

★★★★★

NAKED LADIES DANCE #4 ($1 & Age Statement from Stev, PO Box 1148, W. Warwick, RI 02895): A zine about the fine art of stripping and the women who do it. This issue features Porche Lynn along with some stills from her porn movies, hence the age statement. Stev also reviews another local lounge. Free to prisoners. (D-16r)

★★★★★

N'APA #122 (Contact Tim Gatewood, PO Box 12921, Memphis, TN 38182-0921): The apa of the National Fantasy Fan Federation, a SF social group. The members talk about predictably diverse subjects, from music to politics to film to fan conventions. Twiltone even lives on in one of the zines here. This apa has grown since I last saw it, but still has room for more chatty folks. (S-139)

★★★★★

☐**THE NATIONAL AMERICANIST** Jan. 1990 ($8 from Monetary Science Publishing, PO Box 86, Wickliffe, OH 44092-0086): Another publication attempting to explain, in clear layman's language, why the Federal Reserve is the most evil institution in the United States and why money issued by the US Treasury would be preferable to Federal Reserve Notes. I can't tell whether they make more or less sense than any other newsletter on the subject. (S-12t)

★★★★★

☐**NATIONALISM TODAY** #45 (£13/6 issues from Nationalist Publications, PO Box 228, Manor Park. London E12, ENGLAND): The magazine of the National Front, a group which supports racial separation but claims not to be narrow-minded racists or Nazis. In fact, they spend so much time defending themselves against various charges that it is somewhat difficult to determine what they do stand for. However, tight communities and small-scale capitlaism ("Distributism") seems to be the core of their program. (A4-28t)

★★★★★

NEOLOGY #68 ($2.50 from ESFCAS, Box 4071 PSSE, Edmonton, Alberta, T6E 4S8, CANADA): The zine of the Edmonton Science Fiction and Comic Arts Society is still having trouble holding on to editors and as a result is rather in the doldrums lately. Cath Jackel's fanzine reviews are fun, as are the loc from Harry Warner and some of the serialized fiction. An air of silliness lurks in the wings, waiting to be properly exploited. (S-26t)

★★★★★

THE NEON NEWS Vol. 1 #2 ($15/4 issues from PO Box 668, Volcano, HI 96785): A publication for professional makers of neon signs (a field which, come to think of it, probably has few if any amateurs). They discuss tricks of the trade, where to buy supplies and equipment, and ideas of using neon. Did you know that hanging neon lights on chicken wire makes them break? (S-10t)

★★★★★

☐**NEON WORM** #1 (75¢ "Or anything cool" from 1430 Willamette #254, Eugene, OR 97401): A new rantzine which starts out by laying out some topics: sec, death, insanity, money—as part of their "basic principles". There's a bleak pre-apocalyptic view of the world here, which leads into some art and strange poetry-like writings. (D-16)

★★★★★

☐**NEW AGE PATRIOT** Vol. 1 #2 ($5/4 issues from PO Box 419, earborn, MI 48127): These people exist to push a single concept: RDLER, which stands for Regulated Drug Legalization, Education and Rehabilitation. In this issue they reprint George Schultz's speech on drug legalization, and present a lot of statistics to back up their claim that interdiction simply can't work. (S-8t)

★★★★★

☐**NEW ALBANIA** 1/1987 ($4.25/yr from Ndërmarrja e Përhapjes, Së Librit, Tirana, ALBANIA): This issue is sort of old, but the person who sent it to me assures me it is still publishing. tHis may be the last of the grand Stalinist socialist magazines around, full of new on the Albanian elections (100% of the vote to the candidates from the Democratic Front), the new 5-year plan, heroic art, and grim sports teams and piano students. (O-40t)

★★★★★

☐**NEW AMERICAN WIRELESS** #1 ($1 from Kristin Bowling, 307 Peabody Hall, Box 870, Miami University, Oxford, OH 45056): A new forum for voices demanding change and justice. There's a lot of socially-conscious poetry here, plus some basics on why socialism is a good idea, abortion rights, short stories, and art. Composed by students from all over the place. (S-18)

★★★★★

THE NEW CRUCIBLE Dec. 1989-Jan. 1990 ($6 from Garry De Young, PO Box 7252, Spencer, IA 51301): Those of you who enjoy Garry's columns in **FF** should get hold of this, as it's his own forum and contains many more details on his court cases and other works. He also reprints environmental news releases from around the country, as well as feature articles on things like the state of our nation's farm lands. (S-122t)

★★★★★

☐**THE NEW ECONOMY** Vol. 1 #2 ($12/yr from PO Box 15025, Washington, DC 20003): The newsletter of the National Commission for Economic Conversion and Disarmament, one of a number of groups trying to push military resources into the civilian sphere to do socially-useful work. This issue focuses on the conversions movement in Europe, reporting on some of the latest theory. Now, if only we could make the jump to practice! (S-12t)

★★★★★

NEW ENVIRONMENT BULLETIN #170-172 ($6.50/yr from Bill Case, 120 Academy St., Manlius, NY 13104): The New Environment Association is about fifteen years old now, still trying to get some movement towards rebuilding society. They're doing a lot in the Syracuse area to encourage people to think differently, go organic, consider land and mutual aid, and so on. A bit inchoate to outsiders, but always interesting. (S-6t)

★★★★★

NEW FORCES Vol. 2 #1-2 ($5/yr from Tim Mayer, 8816 Manchester Rd. #7, St. Louis, MO 63144): A zine of political and cultural comment. #1 opens with the latest from East Beirut, a situation which has apparently fascinated the editor for some time. He also reviews a new book on the links between the Knights Templar and Freemasonry. (S-4)

★★★★★

NEW FRONTIER Nov. 1989 ($18/yr from 421 Fairmount Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19123): One of the better assembled New Age magazines around. They manage to corral a lot of big names, with this issue including Barbara Marx Hubbard, Sunbear and Gary Zukav to name a few. Music, healing, energy, humor, it's all in here somewhere. (S-56t)

★★★★★

NEW INDICATOR Vol. 15 #7-9 ($8/yr from Student Co-op Center, UC San Diego, B-023, La Jolla, CA 92093): This is a cooperative student paper, with a long history of opposition to the university administration (and to most of the rest of society as well). Nowadays they have good reasons for this, since the students have been ripped off to pay for a new building most of them didn't want. A good mix of local activism and wider political news. (T-8t)

★★★★★

NEWS & LETTERS Vol. 35 #1-2 (25¢ from 59 E. Van Buren #707, Chicago, IL 60605): Intense Hegelian philosophical analyses coupled with the Marxist-Humanist stand on current events make this quite a chore to wade through. The folks behind N&L seem to have a perfectly coherent, perfectly closed worldview that I don't find it worth penetrating. So maybe I shouldn't be reviewing this, but they keep sending copies, and every once in a while I pick out a tidbit of world labor news I otherwise wouldn't see. (T-8t)

★★★★★

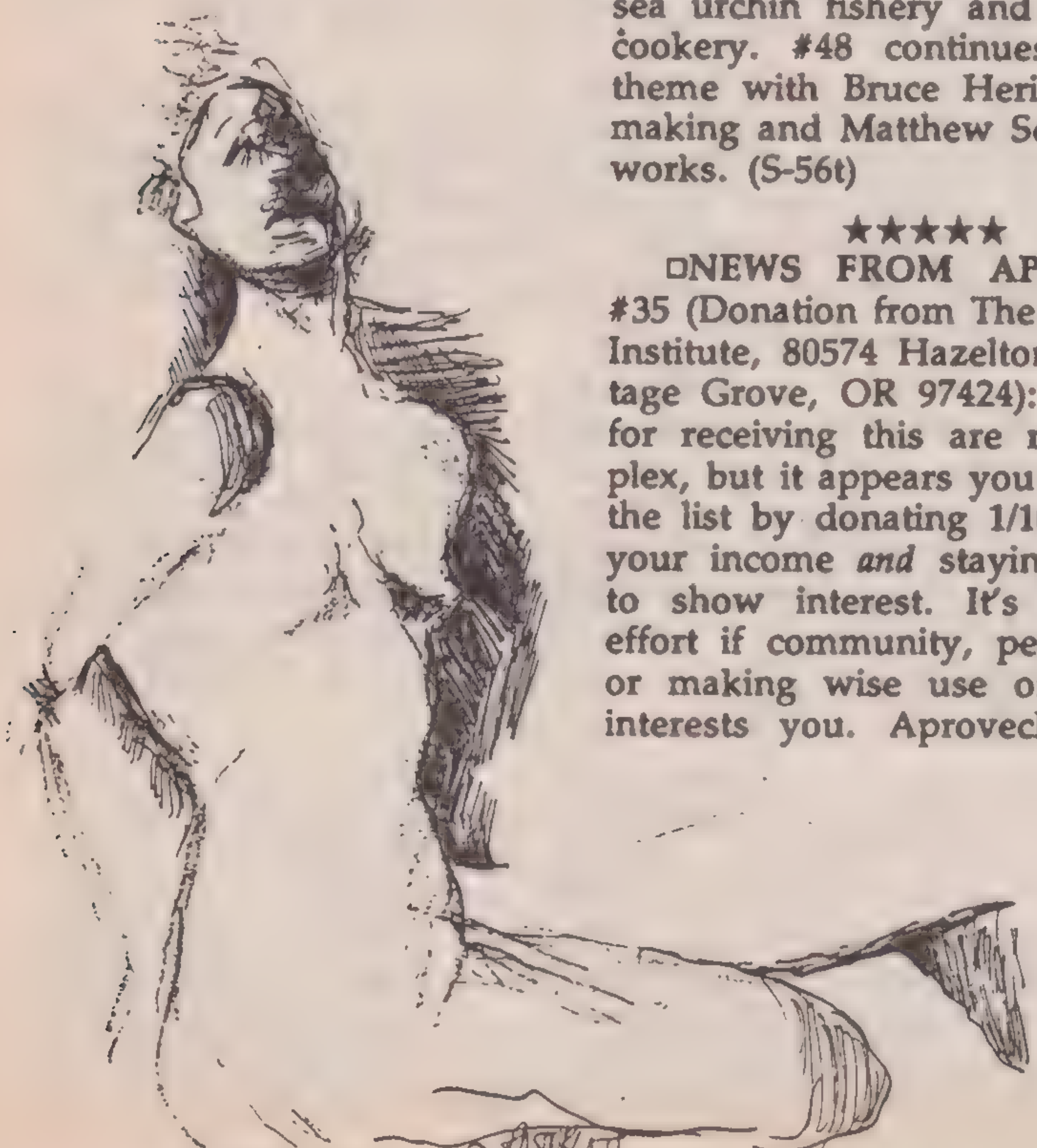
NEWS AND NOTES FROM ALL OVER Winter '89/Spring '90 ($1 from SET, PO Box 10491, Oakland, CA 94610): The newsletter of the Society for the Eradication of Television. They got a lot of publicity recently when Dear Abby lambasted them, which has resulted in new backlash members. The newsletter discusses how to spread the anti-TV idea, and has some thoughts on how to spend your time when you stop watching the idiot box. (L-6)

★★★★★

THE NEW SETTLER INTERVIEW #47-48 ($10/12 issues from PO Box 730, Willits, CA 95490): Northern California as seen through talking with some of the nifty people who live there. #47 includes sea urchin fishery and woodstove cookery. #48 continues the food theme with Bruce Hering's breadmaking and Matthew Schmit's tofu works. (S-56t)

★★★★★

□**NEWS FROM APROVECHO** #35 (Donation from The Aprovecho Institute, 80574 Hazelton Rd., Cottage Grove, OR 97424): The terms for receiving this are rather complex, but it appears you can get on the list by donating 1/10 of 1% of your income *and* staying in touch to show interest. It's worth the effort if community, permaculture, or making wise use of resources interests you. Aprovecho runs a research institute in Oregon (growing much of their own food year-round, among other activities) and consults internationally, in pursuit of these goals. A friendly feel helps this newsletter feel very personal. (S-12r)



★★★★★

□**NEWSLETTER OF THE INSTITUTE OF ABSURDITY** Vol. 6 #1 ($1 (?) from 236 W. Portal #170, San Francisco, CA 94127): A collecton of strange philosophical wanderings combined with notes on what the Institute is up to. For one thing, they're sponsoring a contest for stand-up performers to see who can be the most obnoxious, as measured by the volume of vegetables thrown by the audience. (S-6)

★★★★★

NEWSLETTER WITH NO NAME Vol. 2 #4 ($6 to $30/yr from R.K. West, PO Box 8059, Mission Hills, CA 91346): A collection of essays and letters from folks involved with one or another high-IQ society. There's some Mensa-bashing here, but that's not the core. Rather, the zine's flavor comes from essays like D. Castleman's "On War" and Edson Blodgett's "The Soundthink Philosophy" in this issue (S-8)

★★★★★

□**THE NEWS OF THE WATCHMEN** Jan. 1990 ($1 (?) from Universal Church of God, Rte. 2 Box 22, Caddo County Judicial District, Andarko, OK): Nutbar literature of the first water. The ranter here is heavy into the coming Armageddon (we're already in the time of troubles, he says) and the looney-tune fringe of Constitutionalist governmental opposition. This issue includes his demands to the governor of Oklahoma to reform the state, outlaw democracy, and put the homosexuals to death—among lots of other babbling. (D-16r)

★★★★★

NEW UNIONIST #151-152 ($3/10 issues from 621 W. Lake St. #210, Minneapolis, MN 55408): The paper of the New Union Party, which seeks to organize worker-led unions to overthrow capitalism. #151 has an excellent historical look at the sit-down strike, as well as thoughts on violent crime and capitalism. (T-4t)

★★★★★

NEXUS Vol. 25 #1 ($15 from 006 University Center, Wright State University, Dayton, OH 45435): To celebrate reaching 25 years, this litmag decided to do something a bit different: and so they put out this issue as 3 LP records, with a mix of music, noise, and spoken word pieces. Contributors include Tuli Kupferberg, Robert Winson, John Bennett, Daniel Johnston, Richard Meltzer, and many, many others. Quite a full package, with photos of all the contributors and short program notes included. (3LP)

★★★★★

THE NOCTURNAL LYRIC #14 ($1.25 from Susan, PO Box 2602, Pasadena, CA 91102-2602): A small litmag that tends a bit towards teen-angst stories, though they have some range. Still, the most memorable thing in this issue is Debbie Jordan's "Compliments", which is not exactly an upbeat story. Nice art dresses thigsn up a bit. (D-24r)

★★★★★

NOOSPAPERS #7 ($3 from 215 North Avenue West #21, Westfield, NJ 07090): A literary magazine that tends towards essays and politics. This issue has a loose theme of "Maps, Manifestoes & Diagrams", and includes several statements along those lines including a pamphlet from Jack Wright and some discussion of chaos from Hakim Bey. Other contributions are along the lines of concrete poetry or Stephen-Paul martins' exploration of the wonders of alternative press or Bob Black's review of some Situationist texts. Much to ponder here. (S-50t)

★★★★★

NO OTHER WAY #3 (45¢ SASE from PO Box 2214, Fair Oaks, CA 95628): A zine of punk Christianity that is very well done. Most of this issue is devoted to a long hard look at racism, denouncing not just the Nazis and the Klan but various religious groups that practice racism as well. There's even stuff from editor Ripp's own upbringing thrown in. Abortion and the reasons for accepting Jesus are also covered. (D-24r)

★★★★★

NORTHERN SUN NEWS Vol. 13 #1 ($10/yr from 1519 E. Franklin Ave., Minneapolis, MN 55404): This one is late and shrunken;

apparently the production collective has collapsed, though details are promised in the next issue. Meanwhile they publish some news bits in a socially conscious vein, a community calendar, and a short biography of Meridel LeSueur. (T-8t)

★★★★★

NOSEX ($5 from Ethan Pettit, PO Box 1591, New York, NY 10276): The latest edition of this gargantuan silk-screen poster zine is issued ion the occasion of the "Sex Salon", and, not surprisingly, it's about sex. On a field of sketchy erotic drawings are sprinkled various bits of text, mostly addressing the questions of sex and media, and drawing parallels between one realm of reaching out and the other. (O-1)

★★★★★

NOT BORED! #16 ($3 (?) from Bill Brown, 436 Amherst #3, Buffalo, NY 14207): Bill sees the world in very theoretical terms, drawing largely on Situationism as well as other movements of the 20th century. He hops from a discussion of **LIPSTICK TRACES** to an analysis of the Panama invasion as protecting the Spectacle to his own adventures masturbating in a factory complex. Too deep for me, or at least depending too heavily on things I have not read. (S-50)

★★★★★

NOTES FROM THE DUMP #65-67 ($20/yr from Terry Ward, PO Box 39, Acworth, NH 03601): Tales of Terry's life, from running the Acworth-Langdon Transfer Station on back into the sixties. Much of #65 is taken up by a '55 Lincoln Capri he recently acquired, now for sale at $6000 or thereabouts. (S-6)

★★★★★

NOTES FROM OBLIVION #23 1/2 (SASE from Jay Harber, 626 Paddock Ln., Libertyville, IL 60048): A small issue of Jay's personalzine—but instead of focusing on his own medical problems, he looks out and back at the eighties. He ends up being pretty cynical about the whole decade which, I suppose, is understandable. (S-2)

★★★★★

NOVA EXPRESS Vol. 3 #1 ($10/yr from PO Box 27231, Austin, TX 78755): A SF zine that deserves more subscriptions than it already has. This issue is centered on a long chatty interview with Pat Cadigan, followed by a bibliography of her works. There's also a batch of reviews, mostly of books from quality small presses like Ziesing, and a short story by Brad Linaweaver. (S-24t)

★★★★★

NU #2 (IRCs (?) from Xavier Bouyges, 16 Rue de la Pinsonniere, 77680 Roissy en Brie, FRANCE): A large art magazine in page size if not in length. The works here are on the edge of being experioddical, with the mag's title worked in on a few pages, and some abstract splotches on other pages. (O-5)

★★★★★

□**NYCOMPUTER** #1 ($5 from Subway Publications, PO Box 2001, New York, NY 10009): A new computer magazine for the technically-oriented but not especially knowledgeable user. The first issue has a list of places in NYC that rent computer time, a primer on desktop publishing lingo, and a review of a program that makes calendars. Skewed a bit towards Macs, but includes some IBM information as well. (S-12t)

★★★★★

OBSCURE PUBLICATIONS & VIDEO #3-4 ($6/12 issues from PO Box 1334, Milwaukee, WI 53201): Another source for the reader interested in finding more obscure stuff. In addition to highlighting carefully chosen zines (**MURDER CAN BE FUN** and **VIEW FROM THE LEDGE** in #3), they reprint bits of cultural flotsam from more mainstream sources. #4 features Nick Zedd and announces their own video contest. (S-6t)

★★★★★

THE ODINIST #125 ($8/8 issues from PO Box 1647, Crystal River, FL 32629): These explorers of Aryan heritage and thought continue to surprise me. This issue is devoted largely to a sympathetic presentation of anarchist, sorting out the core of mutual aid from the various slurs that have been pressed to it by Marxists and others. (S-10)

★★★★★

OFFICE NUMBER ONE Vol. 28,284 #8,490 ($5.43/4 issues from 1709 San Antonio St., Austin, TX 78701): A deadpan humor magazine reporting on the news in various alternative realities—indeed, it apparently comes from an alternative reality itself. This issue ranges fro the US Government buying Imelda Marcos's shoe collection to the Jarvik-373 Swiss Army Heart. (HL-12r)

★★★★★

THE OFF HOLLYWOOD REPORT Vol. 5 # 1 ($25/yr from The Independent Feature Project, 21 W. 86th St., New York, NY 10024): A trade magazine for those who work with and on independent films. This issue has an interview with filmmaker Charles Lane, notes on the technology of projection video, and a look at the pay scales prevailing in this part of the industry. Very forthright feeling and committed to its field. (S-34t)

★★★★★

□**OFFSHORE MEDICAL THERAPIES** #3-5 ($19/4 issues from PO Box 833, Framingdale, NY 11737): "The Quarterly Review of the World's Finest Treatments for Youth, Health, and Beauty", this one depends on literature searches in medical journals. They report on all sorts of drugs that appear to slow aging, improve mental function, and other good things—that you can't buy in this country. Presumably those motivated enough will find a way. (S-8t)

★★★★★

□**OFF THE WALL** #6-8 (A "stamp or a useful item" from John & Kathe Burt, 960 SW Jefferson Ave., Corvallis, OR 97333): The title in this case is literal, since this is a collage of materials from John & Kathe's kitchen wall. It's a medley of strange newspaper headlines, obscure products, and butchery of the English language from various sources. (S-2)

★★★★★

OHIO WRITER Vol. IV #1-2 ($12/6 issues from PO Box 770464, Cleveland, OH 44107): A magazine for serious writers who happen to live in Ohio, much of this is focused on the literary scene—talks with established authors, reports on workshops, and so on. They also review work from around the state; the almost full-page write-up on **IMPETUS** in this issue is a classic example of the contempt the small press often feels towards the micropress. Still, I wouldn't condemn **OW** for one review; there's lots of inspiration in these pages. #2 has a nice article on small publishers in Ohio, including Luna Bisonte, which helps put me in a better mood. (S-16t)

★★★★★

OIKOS Feb. 1990 (Bus 178, Hartbeespoort 0276, SOUTH AFRICA): An ecologically-oriented zine which has made the transition from bilinguality to pure Afrikaans, making it a bit tough to review. I can still work out the main thrusts—recycling, household tips, networking, living sanely and learning to do better. (A4-4r)

★★★★★

THE OKLAHOMA CAUCUS First 1990 Issue ($10/yr from LP of Oklahoma, PO Box 54703, Tulsa, OK 74155-9990): The newsletter of Oklahoma's Libertarian Party. They print mostly editorials, on topics like taxation or pollution, from the Libertarian point of view. This issue also has an almost-too-cute (dressed up with computer clip art) simple recruiting pamphlet. (S-8)

★★★★★

□**OLIVE BRANCH** #1 (2 stamps from Jennifer Nixon, RD 1 Box 148B, Sherbourne, NY 13460): This one came in an envelope filled to bursting with mylar glitter confetti—a move which caused it to be immediately barred from the computer room. Jennifer, though, seems dedicated to tackiness, from single-paragraph cuts at celebrities to a centerfold of Jesus as a punk hunk to the short essay by a friend on masturbation. She says everyone gets a free tacky gift when they order too. (D-20)

★★★★★

ON THE ISSUES Vol. XIII-XIV ($9.50/4 issues from 97-77 Queens Blvd., Forest Hills, NY 11374): A strong feminist voice, distinguished by a consistently deep analysis of what's really going on in America. Abortion remains a prime topic, with Merle Hoffman's editorial in #13 well worth reading. That issue also has an interview with political prisoner Susan Rosenberg and an article on women in the grassroots toxics movement. #14 includes a look back at Margaret Sanger and a story on young women organizing to oppose parental consent and notification laws. (S-40t)

★★★★★

☐**OPDAG NEWS #22** ($3.50 from Judy's Place, PO Box 176, Skandia, MI 49885): The newsletter of the Official paper Doll Artists Guild—another group that I never knew was in the small publishing business. They print lots of news on new and old dolls and their availability, tips on designing your own, and even reduced pictures of many of them. Lots of enthusiasm and involvement in this group, which makes for a fun read even if it's been years since your last doll, paper or otherwise. (S-46)

★★★★★

THE OPTIMISTIC PEZZIMIST Vol. 1 #2 ($15/yr from Mike Robertson, PO Box 606, Dripping Springs, TX 78620): A magazine for Pez dispenser collectors, who are more common than you might think. There are auction results, appreciations of Pez, history and a Q&A column here. The marginal quality of some of the scanned photos is made up for by the inclusion of full color postcards and photos as well. (D-32t)

★★★★★

OREGON PAGAN COUNCIL NETWORK NEWSLETTER Vol. 1 #3 (On request [suggested donation $1-2] from PO Box 1012, Oregon City, OR 97045): A networking newsletter for the local pagan community in Oregon. They print notes of events, reviews of books, ads from local pagans and plenty of networking news. This issue contains the OPC Bylaws. (S-12t)

★★★★★

THE OTHER ISRAEL #40 ($20/6 months from AICIPP, 4816 Cornell Ave., Downers Grove, IL 60515): Available from the American-Israel Council for Israeli-Palestine Peace, this one is actually produced in Tel-Aviv by the Israeli Council with similar aims. It contains statements and articles from peace activists in Israel, letting people know that not everyone in that country supports the policies of the government. A brave alternative voice. (S-12t)

★★★★★

OTTERWISE Spring 1990 ($4/4 issues from PO Box 1374, Portland, ME 04104): An animal rights magazine directed at the youngsters. It's got introductory articles on various different animals, activities (like sprouting), and a question and answer column. It also gently introduces concepts like vegetarianism and wildlife rehabilitation. (S-8t)

★★★★★

OUT OF ORDER ($1/5 issues from PO Box 5498, Atlanta, GA 30307): Kerry Thornley's very occasional Discordian paper. This time around (the issue is unnumbered, but I think it's about #5), he delivers a report on the training one may expect to receive under an Oriental Slack Master. (S-1)

★★★★★

☐**OZONE #8**(Contact Douglas V. Cox, 1503 Coker Ave. #4, Knoxville, TX 37917): A general-interest amateur press association, loosely anchored in the SF world. It has a good deal of creativity on the part of its members, from cartoons and short stories right through the inclusion of an original tape by Derek Prout in this issue. A pretty close-knit and active group. (S-85 & T)

★★★★★

PAGAN APA #48 ($2 from Rita Prince Winston, 548-3 S. Venice Blvd., Venice, CA 90291-4182): A meeting place for pagans and fellow travelers of many (if perhaps not all) types, with a friendly spirit to it. Some people discuss ritual and systems, others talk about the practicalities of being pagan in an unpagan world, others look at the wider picture. Lots of mailing comments too—$2 should be enough to get you a sample if you're interested in writing for it. (S-90)

★★★★★

PAGAN ISOLATION #5 (25¢ from N. 3417 Molter Rd., Otis Orchards, WA 99027): This one is obviously anchored in the music scene, as it has the typical punkzine look about it. The contents are more skewed towards social justice concerns though, with some essays,a comic on the war against the poor, zine reviews and more. There's some music content too but it doesn't seem to be the focus. (D-16)

★★★★★

PAGANS FOR PEACE Vol. 4 #4 ($15/13 issues from PO Box 86134, North Vancouver, BC, V7L 4J5, CANADA): A pagan networking zine that is refocusing on pulling folks in Canada together though they don't necessarily stop at the border. Feminism, ecology and parenting are concerns here along with paganism and peace. There's a long article by Maphis in #4 discussing community and individualism for pagans. (S-6r)

★★★★★

PALLAS SOCIETY NEWS Vol. 4 #4 ($8.50/4 issues from PO Box 18211, Encino, CA 91416): An eclectic zine of pagan networking and instruction. They have a "Networking Corner", pages devoted to magick, ritual, herbs, coming out, sex, and much more. The Pallas Society is also active outside the pages of the magazine, helping to knit together the Southern California pagan community. (HL-60t)

★★★★★

PALMETTO POST #3 (Sliding scale, $0-$20/yr from AFSC, 130 19th Ave. SE, St. Petersburg, FL 33705): A well-done magazine exploring the world of the Greens, and its connections to issues of peace and social justice. They do a lot of networking, with notes on past events and upcoming ones and contact information. Food, housing, bioregionalism and hazardous waste are just a few of the topics here. (S-47t)

★★★★★

☐**PANICOS #1** ($1 (?) from Steve Fentone, PO Box 742, Sta. Q, Toronto, ONT, M4T 2N5, CANADA): A new zine from one of the folks at **KILLBABY**, this one focusing exclusively on Mexican horror films. There prove to be a surprising number of them, and Steve discusses those he's seen and asks for help on others he's only heard about. Most bizarre offering here: "Santa Claus". (S-16)

★★★★★

☐**PANSY BEAT #2** ($3 & 65¢ 6x9 SASE from Michael Economy, PB Productions, 184 9th Ave. #2B, New York, NY 10011): A rather frivolous, media-oriented gay publication. They're cheerfully irreverent, with campy interviews, serious filmmakers, and analysis of Lucille Ball and a free condom in this issue. There's also some Christmas cartoons and short fiction, both a tad outrageous. Lots of illustrations in a psychedelic style. (D-52t)

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THE PAPER BAG Vol. 2 #1 ($2.50 from M. Brownstein, PO Box 268805, Chicago, IL 60626-8805): A small litmag that tends towards short pieces. margaret Guthrie has a cute short story here, "The Bell Lady", while John Bennett contributes "The Slap", another manic poem. Judson Crews and Walt Phillips are also to be found here, among many other contributors. (D-28)

★★★★★

PARALLELOGRAMME Vol. 15 #4 ($15/4 issues from 183 Bathurst St., Toronto, ONT, M5T 2R7, CANADA): A fat magazine of "contemporary Canadian art news". This issue looks largely at women in the arts and their struggle to survive in yet another male-dominated sphere. The essays tend to be pretty chewy, and are presented in both English and French. They also feature an extensive directory of galleries and exhibits across the country. (S-104t)

★★★★★

☐**THE PARTIE LION** Vol. I #3 ($3 from Randal Haithcock, 5156 Revere Rd., Durham, NC 27713): Randal's newsletter is basically a series of extended book reviews, taking off from published works to discuss society as a whole. Both in style and choice of topics it reminds me somewhat of my own grad school career—I was fascinated then, I'm fascinated now. This time around he ranges from RD Laing to community building to several philosophical texts on truth to the potential and dangers of CD-ROM. (S-16)

★★★★★

THE PATRIOT REVIEW Vol. V #1 ($20/yr from PO Box 905, Sandy, OR 97055): A journal of legal news, moral editorials, and other things for those who think America has gone to the dogs and want to reverse this. They're heavily into fighting the IRS, exposing corruption in the government, and bringing Christianity to prominence. Along with the usual, this issue has a piece on Bo Gritz's attempts to garner government support for his effective alternative to the war on drugs. (T-16t)

★★★★★

PEACEWORK #194 ($1 from AFSC, 2161 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02140): An excellent networking zine for those interested in [peace and social justice issues. Eastern Europe and Panama are the prime subjects here, but they also look at inner city Boston and at the challenges facing activists in the new decade. Dedicated and inspirational. (S-16t)

★★★★★

PELTEX #8H & #8X ($3.50 and $5 respectively from Dominique LeBlanc, 3 rue des Couples, 67000 Strasbourg, FRANCE): This series of French minis, each featuring art from an artist whose name begins with a different letter of the alphabet, continues. However, both "J" and "D" already being taken, Julie Doucet arbitrarily gets assigned to "H"—I guess it makes sense if you're an artist. I like Julie's work, and the strip reprinted here, featuring a bit of a strange love affair, shows her at her best. The X issue features a whole batch of contributors and a number of explicit color images. (M-24)

★★★★★

PENGUIN DIP #32 ($15/10 issues from Stephen H. Dorneman, 94 Eastern Ave. #1, Malden, MA 02148): A fanzine that crosspollinates between SF fans, Diplomacy players, and other gamers. This issue mentions games played live, electronically, on a board, by mail, or with computers...and perhaps other ways I missed. There are Dip game results, reviews, letters and the occasional commentary form the editor. (S-18t)

★★★★★

PENT-UP OBSERVATIONS Vol. 2 #1 (Stamps/Donation from Mike Furry #67000, Arizona State Prison, 10000 S. Wilmot Rd., Tucson, AZ 85777-0005): Before sending money, you might want to write and ask about procedures, since this one is put together behind the prison walls. It's a mix of essays and humor, with a system for winning at craps, abortion rights, and the ludicrousness of the "justice" system all showing up here. (S-26)

★★★★★

THE PENUMBRA #3 (One stamp from Porcine Software, PO Box 20625, New York, NY 10009): A journal of satire and housing squabbles on the Lower East Side of New York. Patterned after the deadly-serious **SHADOW**, this one takes a more insouciant approach, poking fun at anarchists and punks as well as the police. Real news, a tripe report, scene news from an unpronounceable countryu, and a page headed "Vicious, Boring Political Rant" are all loads of fun. (T-12t)

★★★★★

☐**PERSPECTIVE** Vol. VI #8 ($10/yr from PO Box 2439, Cambridge, MA 02238): It's good to see an avowedly liberal campus paper to balance out the run of new conservative papers. Much of this issue is devoted to looking at the relations between the sexes (sometimes tongue-in-cheek): mail-order brides, a poll on who likes what, and an interview with Mary Daly all figure in here. They also look at the new claims about Eisenhower's death camps in postwar Europe. (T-28t)

★★★★★

PERVERTS

THE FADING UNIVERSE #1 ($1 from Andrew Roller, PO Box 221295, Sacramento, CA 95822): A couple of years ago Roller was serializing this story in mini form; now it's back again, with more words in a chunk. The plot, such as it is, centers on a postapocalypse world, where new elements, from giant beetles to warring cities, sneak in every time the action hits a lull. (S-10t)

★★★★★

☐**PETER DUEL REMEMBRANCE CLUB** Vol. 3 #2 ($2.50 from Melody Cecko, 2091 Duluth St., Maplewood, MN 55109): A newsletter for fans of Peter Duel, perhaps best known for his role in *Alias Smith & Jones*. They include photos of Peter in various roles, Q&A about his life and works, and a pen pal column so members can contact one another. They also list several other groups and zines in the same genre. (S-16)

★★★★★

PFIQ #32 ($12.50 from Gauntlet, Inc., 8720 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 94114): The title is an acronym for Piercing Fans International Quarterly—these are folks who like to have their jewelry surgically inserted. The highlights of this issue are the reporting on a ceremonial day of outdoor piercings and sun dances and such, and the photos of John, who boasts 180 different pieces of hardware in his genitals. Not for the faint of heart. (S-32t)

★★★★★

☐**P-FORM** #16 ($10/6 issues from Randolph St. Gallery, 756 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL 60622): A magazine about performance art in the Chicago area. They talk to performers, review shows, invite short literary submissions, and print features—as with the look at the vibe of cabarets in this issue. It's a fairly intellectual and critical approach to understanding a wide-open subject, and not all parts flow well, but it's a good peek at a vibrant world. (S-26t)

★★★★★

☐**THE PHOENIX** 1989 ($15/yr from CASNP, PO Box 574, Sta. P, Toronto, ONT, M5S 2T1, CANADA): This one comes from the Canadian Alliance in Solidarity with Native Peoples, and tracks a lot of the different struggles going on in both the US and Canada. They start off with a reprinting of Chief Seattle's Message, but then get into more modern cases: Leonard Peltier, the Innu and their resistance to the military, plus several I hadn't known about including the Toyon Indians in Claifornia. (HL-32)

★★★★★

PHOTOSTATIC #39-40 ($8/6 issues from 911 N. Dodge St., Iowa City, IA 52245): These are the last two issues of this zine before it joins the 3-year Art Strike; I believe they and back issues are still available. **PHOTOSTATIC** was a place to display and talk about new art, especially work that uses xerography as a medium. In this set, #39 is images, #40 is words about them, with an interesting letters section (Mic McInnis making as much sense as anyone about what's wrong with the network), Al Ackerman on Rotational Situationism, and selected reviews. (HL-32t)

★★★★★

PEOPLE'S DAILY WORLD Vol. 4 #106 ($15/yr from 239 W. 23 St., New York, NY 10011): Well, this is a cheap way to get a newspaper in your mail four times a week—if you can stand the bland opposition politics of the Communist Party, USA. I have a lot of trouble regarding this paper as other than a joke, with its heavy insistence on labor news as the most important subject of the day. And what would Uncle Karl think of some of their features—like the advice on buying an exercise bike in this issue? (T-28t)

★★★★★

THE PIGEON CREEK CLARION #2 (SASE (?) from Don Rodgers, PO Box 1014, Greenville, GA 30222): A single-page essay, this time on relations between "the White Man" and "the Black Man" conceived of as rather reified classes rather than individuals. Some will find what Dan has to say rather offensive (he basically argues that there is a lot of reverse discrimination going on); others will nod in agreement. (S-1)

★★★★★

PITTSBURGH HISTORY Spring 1990 ($25/yr from Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania, 4338 Bigelow Blvd., Pittsburgh, PA 15213): I'm fascinated by history (one of my college careers was in history), and especially by industrial history, so this journal is a fun one for me. This issue leads off with a piece on Henry Clay Frick, who as yet remains somewhat enigmatic. It also talks about postwar housing projects in the Pittsburgh area and a coming regional history center. (S-48t)

★★★★★

PLECID BROADSHEET #8 (SASE for 3 copies from PO Box 1399, San Francisco, CA 94101-1399): A cryptic text encompassed on one side of a postcard, making it simple to send the extras to your friends. Lisa Suckdog is the ostensible subject here, although LSD, lava lamps and Christmas trees wander in as well. (M-1r)

★★★★★

□**THE PLOUGHSHARES MONITOR** Vol. X #4 ($20/4 issues from Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies, Conrad Grebel College, Waterloo, ONT, N2L 3G6, CANADA): An anti-militarist zine with a Canadian focus—for example, the print a map of armed conflict in the world today that sets out where Canada has been selling arms. They cover the connections between military budgets and starving children, and talk about peace conversion, among many shorter articles. (S-28t)

★★★★★

POINTS OF LIGHT Vol. III #2-3 (SASE from 928 E. Fifth St., Brooklyn, NY 11230-2104): The newsletter of the Temple of Eternal Light, a pagan/magickal group. They feature a few short articles in each issue, everything from Biblical exegesis to notes on the equinox, and offer various items for sale. (L-2)

★★★★★

□**POKER TIPS** Vol. V #1-Vol. VI #1 ($5/yr from IH3Pa, Rte. 2 Box 2845. Manistique, MI 49854): A bimonthly newsletter for poker players which comes as a benefit of membership in the International Home & Private Poker Players' Association. It has hints on both learning to play and getting better at it, and notes on confusing rules. Members also get the **IH3PA NEWSLETTER**, the right to play in rated tournaments, and other goodies. (S-2)

★★★★★

□**THE POLEMICIST** Vol. 1 #1-4 ($10/5 issues from 504 W. 24th St. #28, Austin, TX 78705): This is interesting: an avowedly radical campus paper as well-written and forceful as the new breed of conservativ college papers—and about time, too. They look at subjects like the involvement of the University of Texas with the military-industrial complex, racism and mistreatment of students, and so on. Especially amusing is the page of chastisement for the mealymouthed that they print in every issue. (T-16t)

★★★★★

POSITIVE INPUT

THE POSNERIAN TIMES Vol. 2 #1 ($4 from Jerry Posner, PO Box 244, West Stockbridge, MA 01266-0244): A newsletter for those into living a better life through positive thinking. With the aid of a Mac computer, Jerry creates a bombardment of words and graphics, many with a message of success (broadly defined, both spiritual and monetary). He also offers various services including affirmation recording and "posi-yoga" lessons. (S-12)

★★★★★

THE PRAGMATIST Vol. 7 #4 ($10/6 issues from PO Box 792, Forest Grove, PA 18922): "A Utilitarian Approach" to arguing for the benefits of a more Libertarian society. In this issue they discuss voluntary associations as a step on the way to utopia (or otherwise), the "paradox of politics", and the difficulty the movement has in supporting a news magazine (they are considering remedying this). A sidebar reveals that taxes will cost the average citizen over $5 million in their lifetime. (S-16t)

★★★★★

THE PRAIRIE RAMBLER #150-151 ($1.23 from PO Box 505, Claremont, CA 91711-0505): A collection of wit and wisdom culled from the pages of the world's books, from the profound to the merely amusing. Editor Jerry B. has a sharp eye for quotations which provoke thought, whether they be on world finance, business life, or jus entertainment. (S-8)

★★★★★

□**THE PRESIDENT JOURNAL** #1 ($3 from Chris Laursen, General Delivery, Tofield, AB, T0B 4J0, CANADA): A new zine that's trying to cover a lot of ground, from record reviews to a Monty Python trivia quiz. They do lengthy fanzine reviews (though only a few of them) and print stories, essays, and poetry. They also want to put together a comp tape. The result is somewhat scattered, but shows promise. (S-28)

★★★★★

PRINTER'S INK Vol. 5 #4 (On request from Thomson-Shore, PO Box 305, Dexter, MI 48130-0305): A newsletter for folks who need short-run books printed, which happens to be Thomson-Shore's business. Some of this is advice of use to any publisher, other bits—like the notes on which recycled paper they make available—are more specific to their own business. (S-4t)

★★★★★

PRISON NEWS SERVICE #22 (Donation from PSC Publishers, PO Box 5052, Sta. A, Toronto, ONT, M5W 1W4, CANADA): News from prisons worldwide (though concentrating on the U.S.) with a mildly revolutionary slant. In addition to publicizing riots, lockdowns, and mistreatment, they give space each issue for the **MARIONETTE**, a newsletter from folks at USP Marion, the flagship of the Federal repression system. (HL-20t)

★★★★★

PROFANE EXISTENCE #2 ($1.50 from PO Box 8722, Minneapolis, MN 55408): Music and anarchy, a potent combination—listed here because I'm impressed with the political stuff. In particular Rat and Felix do an excellent piece on anarchists and why they should be suspicious of the left, and Troll pinpoints some of the problems with factionalism within the movement. Sofa Head, scene reports, and international Ecomedia news also show up in these pages. (S-32t)

★★★★★

THE PROGRESSIVE PRAGMATIST Vol. IV #4 ($12/6 issues from 3214 Tibbett Ave., Bronx, NY 10463): A newsletter about mainstream politics with a masthead motto of "Comforting the Afflicted, Afflicting the Comfortable". In this issue they slam exit polls, look at the Catholic Church's incursions into the political arena, and evaluate living ex-Presidents. I like their selection of buttons as well—especially "George Bush, the Only President to Have a League Named After Him." (S-12)

★★★★★

□**PROLETARIAN REVOLUTION** #35 (($7/8 issues from Socialist Voice, 170 Broadway #201, New York, NY 10038): Another leftist zine, this one from the League for the Revolutionary Party. It's better done than most of its ilk, especially in its analyses of competing leftist positions (most other alphabet-soup groups simply ignore the competition). Good to see that they're skeptical of folks in power all over, too. (S-32t)

★★★★★

THE PROMISE LAND TIMES Nov.-Dec. 1989 ($1/5 issues from PO Box 5498, Atlanta, GA 30307): A wall newspaper of politics, anarchy and communism issued by the one and only Kerry Thornley. Topics include the international banking cabal and an analysis of the ultra-leftist worldview. (S-1)

★★★★★

□**PRO WRESTLING TORCH** Vol. IV #61-64 ($1.25 from Wade Keller, PO Box 201844, Minneapolis, MN 55420): A wrestling bulletin which includes color photo prints of their cover wrestlers with each issue. They also have a good selection of news and analysis of recent events, with readers writing in with ratings and commentary. A very solid effort. (S-8)

★★★★★

PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM #4 (2 25¢ stamps from Tom Long, 1727 Twombley Rd., De Kalb, IL 60115): A tabloid of nihilism, campus politics, and whatnot. Local small press reviews, the price of parties for administrators, and reasons to legalize everything feature in this issue, along with a comic about a giant tongue. (T-8)

★★★★★

PUNKPALS Feb.-Mar. 1990 (2 25¢ stamps from Robert Brown, 2331 Blake St., Berkeley, CA 94704): This is a penpal club which leans towards punks and others interested in new music and culture. To get a copy, you not only have to send the stamps, but also your name, address, list of bands you like, and a general comment for inclusion in the next issue. So don't send unless you want other people to be writing to you in a few months. (D-9)

★★★★★

□**PURITY** #1 ($4 from Octroberwind Grafx, PO Box 831, Reistertown, MD 21136): This one crosses a couple of genres, including movies, music and comics. What holds it together is a fascination for gore, with a lot of gross, disgusting and even blasphemous drawings and comics. They also review other works which they find fascinating, and seem to endorse misery as a way of life. (S-46)

★★★★★

PWA COALITION NEWSLINE #50 ($35/yr from 31 W. 26th St., New York, NY 10010): A magazine by and for People with AIDS and ARC. They print an extensive list of support services for those in the NYC area, as well as letters from many PWAs. They also aggressively monitor and report on alternative and holistic medical treatments. Free to PWAs. (S-54t)

★★★★★

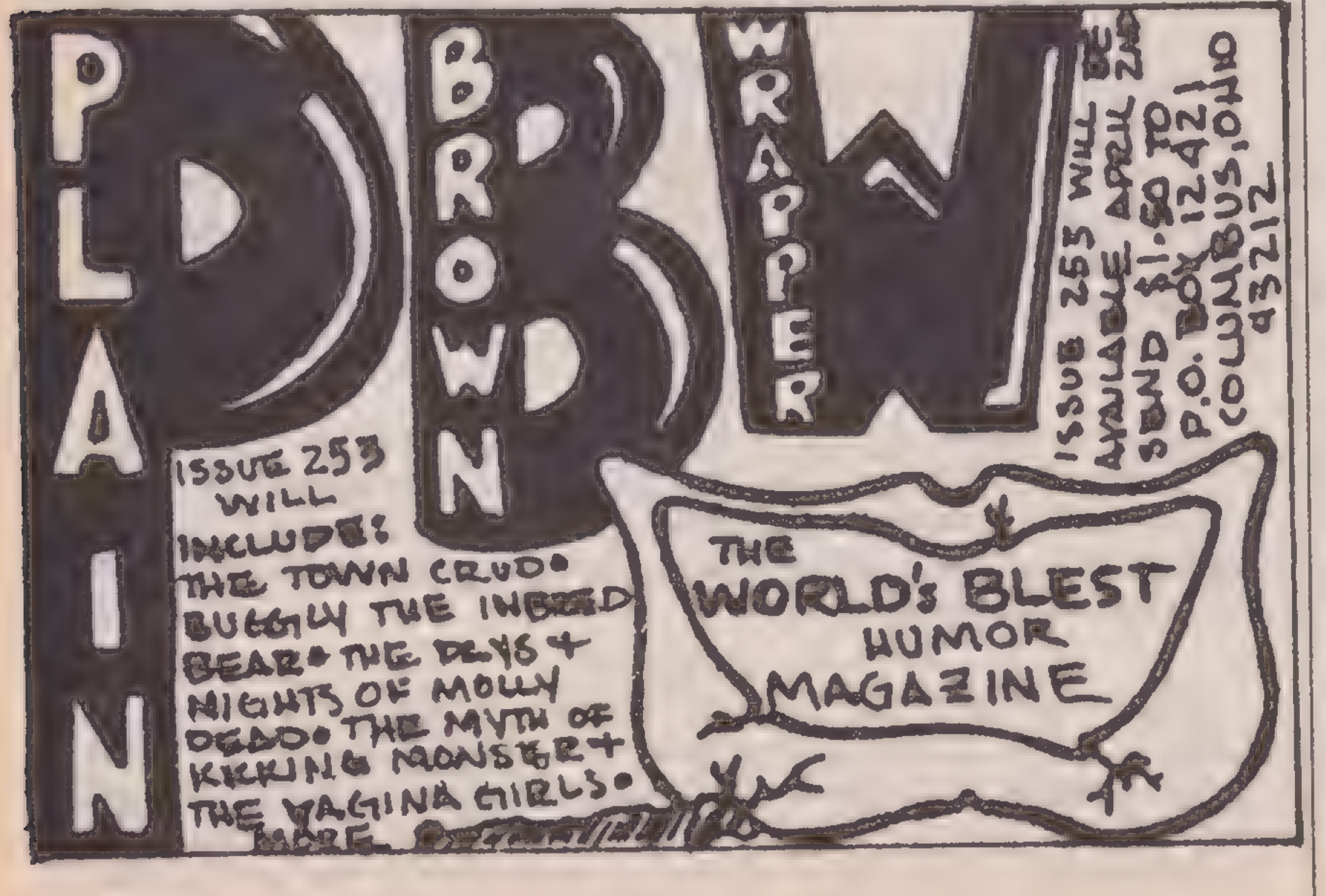
PYRAMID MAGAZINE 3.4 ($1 (?) from 508 Hawks Ave., Vancouver, BC, V6A 3H9, CANADA): A collection of mail art, mostly with pyramids in them—although one soon discovers that with sufficient ingenuity a connection to pyramids can be found in most any image (shade of the Law of Fives!). Contributions come from round the world, running from collage to original art. Editor John Atkin will also sell you a pamphlet on one of Vancouver's campier architectural wonders, the Woodward's "W", for 25¢. (D-40)

★★★★★

QT'S ENTERTAINER #15 ($10/7 issues from 670 Providence St., Woonsocket, RI 02895): This one is centered on fan clubs, and one important page lists contact addresses for a batch of them. But they also print household hints, celebrity profiles, and features on things like the World Championship Old-Time Piano Playing Contest. (HL-20r)

★★★★★

□**QUARTERLY REVIEW OF DOUBLESPEAK** Vol. XVI #1 ($8/4 issues from NCTE, 1111 Kenyon Rd., Urbana, IL 61801): From the National Council of Teachers of English comes this collection of obfuscation from the business, government, educational, medical and other worlds. They collect terms like "drawdown" and "ebbing rates of expansion", document the culprits, and attempt to provide clear English translations. (S-12t)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THE WORLD'S BLEST HUMOR MAGAZINE

★★★★★

□**THE QUAYLE QUARTERLY** Vol. 1 #1 ($3.95 from PO Box 8593, Brewster Sta., Bridgeport, CT 06605): Yes, an entire magazine dedicated to chronicling the acts and words of our Vice President, J. Danforth Quayle. It's not entirely devoted to ridiculing the man (easy target though he is); some writer take a serious look at the institution of the Vice Presidency, for the most part. But it'll be successful because of the number of malapropisms, misstatements, and downright stupidities it quotes from Quayle. I enjoyed it, and the rest of you happy campers will too. (S-16t)

★★★★★

□**RABBITEARS** #1 (The Usual from Mog Decarnin, 2020 Portland Ave. S #3, Minneapolis, MN 55404): A zine about television from a rather iconoclastic point of view; Mog wants to run lots of longish essays in appreciation of various programs. This time around *The A-Team* and *21 Jump Street* both come in for convincing prose. There's also a blast at advertising technique, a column on censorship, and some general rumination. I like Mog's leisurely style of writing. (S-32)

★★★★★

RADIO FREE THULCANDRA #20 ($3 from Marty Helgesen, 11 Lawrence Ave., Malverne, NY 11565): This SF zine is getting pretty close to being an apa, since Marty prints lots of letters from readers to other readers as well as feature articles. The subject is Christianity, usually (but not always) as it is seen from the fan community. Thomas Cron has an interesting survey of alternate history stories changing Christianity's development in this issue. (S-50)

★★★★★

THE RAG #13 (Donation from PO Box 3038, Peoria, IL 61614): A newspaper of opinion, poetry, letters, comics—in short, an open forum for anyone creative who sends stuff. Notable in this issue is a controversy involving a local high school newspaper, which was banned for *mentioning* underground papers like **THE RAG**. They've offered the administrators space to tell their side of the story without result. (T-16r)

★★★★★

RAMPIKE Subterfuge issue ($7 from 95 Rivercrest Rd., Toronto, ONT, M6S 4H7, CANADA): To describe **RAMPIKE** as a literary magazine is to barely scratch the surface. Besides experimental prose and poetry, there are interviews (Kathy Acker and Frank Moorehouse among them in this issue) and critical analysis, as well as reporting from the frontiers of the written and performed word. This issue lands work from Misha, Guy Beining, Miekal And, Harry Polkinhorn and many more luminaries of the small press, and puts it all together in an attractive 15"x6" format. (O-88t)

★★★★★

READ ME Vol. 3 #1 ($5/yr from 1118 Hoyt Ave., Everett, WA 98201): A literary tabloid that believes in printing a lot of new writers in every issue, and which gets pretty good stuff in return. I was touched bu Ed Ritter's story "Miss Dunstan and Question 28" in this issue, and enjoyed the letters and cartoon caption contest as well. And that's just scratching the surface; it takes almost a full page just to list the contents here. (T-20t)

★★★★★

REALITY SANDWICH #5-8 (SASE (?) from Yum Haus c/o Swain, PO Box 976, Adelphi, MD 20783): A single sheet of graphics and sometimes-confusing words. #5 is a message to "Art Censors", with four-letter words appearing amidst homey images. #6 has some fast-forward speculation on Mayor Barry's arrest and a bit of black humor about abortions. #8 reports the hopeful news of the brick-by-brick dismantling of the Pentagon. (S-1t)

★★★★★

□**THE REALLY REALLY REALLY SHORT ZINE** #1 ($1 from Stephan Bugaj, PO Box 2088, East Hampton, NY 11937): The price is steep for one sheet of computer printout, but Stephan says the proceeds will go towards publishing a real zine. This one has short paragraphs of opinion on music, hacking, the fall of communism and the local scene. (S-1)

★★★★★

□**RECYCLING TODAY** Feb. 15, 1990 ($28/yr from GIE Inc., 4012 Bridge Ave., Cleveland, OH 44113-3320): A fat slick (but recycled slick) paper publication for the private firms in the recycling business. They're very sensitive to government and market pressures, and full of articles on new ideas an new technologies, some as much oriented towards marketing as recycling itself. There's an amazing amount of activity in the field, which would seem to be a good thing. (S-180t)

★★★★★

□**RED BASS** #14 ($5 from 2425 Burgundy St., New Orleans, LA 70117): A literary magazine that it explicitly concerned both with the politics of art and the ringing forth of repressed voices. Performance artist Carolee Schneemann gets interviewed in this issue, which also features a couple of other articles on performance art. Besides this there are poems and reviews and a critical analysis of Mark pauline's work with SRL. (S-80t)

★★★★★

REFLECTIONS IN A GOLDEN EYE #8 ($2 from David Owens, 561 Page Ave., Atlanta, GA 30307): An apa for folks who want serious discussions of religion and metaphysics. Christian and Buddhist paradigms predominate at the moment, and the contributors are for the most part articulate and a bit long-winded. Courtesy and intelligence are a prerequisite for participation here. I'm impressed by the tone of the discussions and the knowledge of the current participants. (HL-38r)

★★★★★

RELIGION WATCH Vol. 5 #4-5 ($17.50/11 issues from Richard P. Cimino, PO Box 652, North Bellmore, NY 11710): A monthly roundup of news about just about any religion you can think of. In #4 Richard looks at the current trends and makes some predictions about American religion in the 1990s. There's also Hinduism in comic books and the connections (or lack thereof) between the scientific and New Age versions of the Gaia hypothesis. (S-8)

★★★★★

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM ALERT Vol. VI #1 ($20/yr from Coalition for Religious Freedom, 515 Wythe St. #201, Alexandria, VA 22314): This group is interested in preserving religion from interference by the state, or indeed by individuals—deprogramming is one of the subjects they cover in depth. Each issue has lots of short news bits, from pictures of Jesus in homeless shelters to banned books to the right to home education. (S-16t)

★★★★★

RENAISSANCE FAN #8 (The Usual, perhaps from Rosalind Malin and Dick Pilz Jr., 2214 SE 53rd, Portland, OR 97215): The press run for this SF zine is strictly limited—and no wonder, since Dick prints it on their own press and Roz hand-colors the covers, and does an incredible amount of handwork within as well. Add in fabulous articles (the theme this time is clothing, costumes, and put-ons, with people writing everything from fiction to essays on the attractions of capes and masks. I love this zine. (S-20t)

★★★★★

RESEARCHER NEWSLETTER Vol. 3 #5 ($3 from Wiswell Ruffin House, PO Box 1449, Temecula, CA 92390): One of the more readable voices in Revisionist history today. They do spend some time denying the Holocaust, but also look at other bits of history: Father Coughlin's silencing, current media antics, and *Mississipii Burning* in this issue, for example. Whatever you may think of these people and their ideas, don't make the mistake of thinking that they're stupid. (S-8t)

★★★★★

RESOURCE RECYCLING Vol. VIII #7 ($4 from PO Box 10450, Portland, OR 97210): "North America's Recycling Journal" is an industry trade paper primarily for those involved in curbside recycling and other aspects of the community end of things. It tracks legislative and industrial news from around the country, and tries to predict hot new trends. Lots of ads for bits of equipment I never even knew existed, and some determination to bring recycling to an even more prominent place in our world characterize this slick journal. (S-76t)

★★★★★

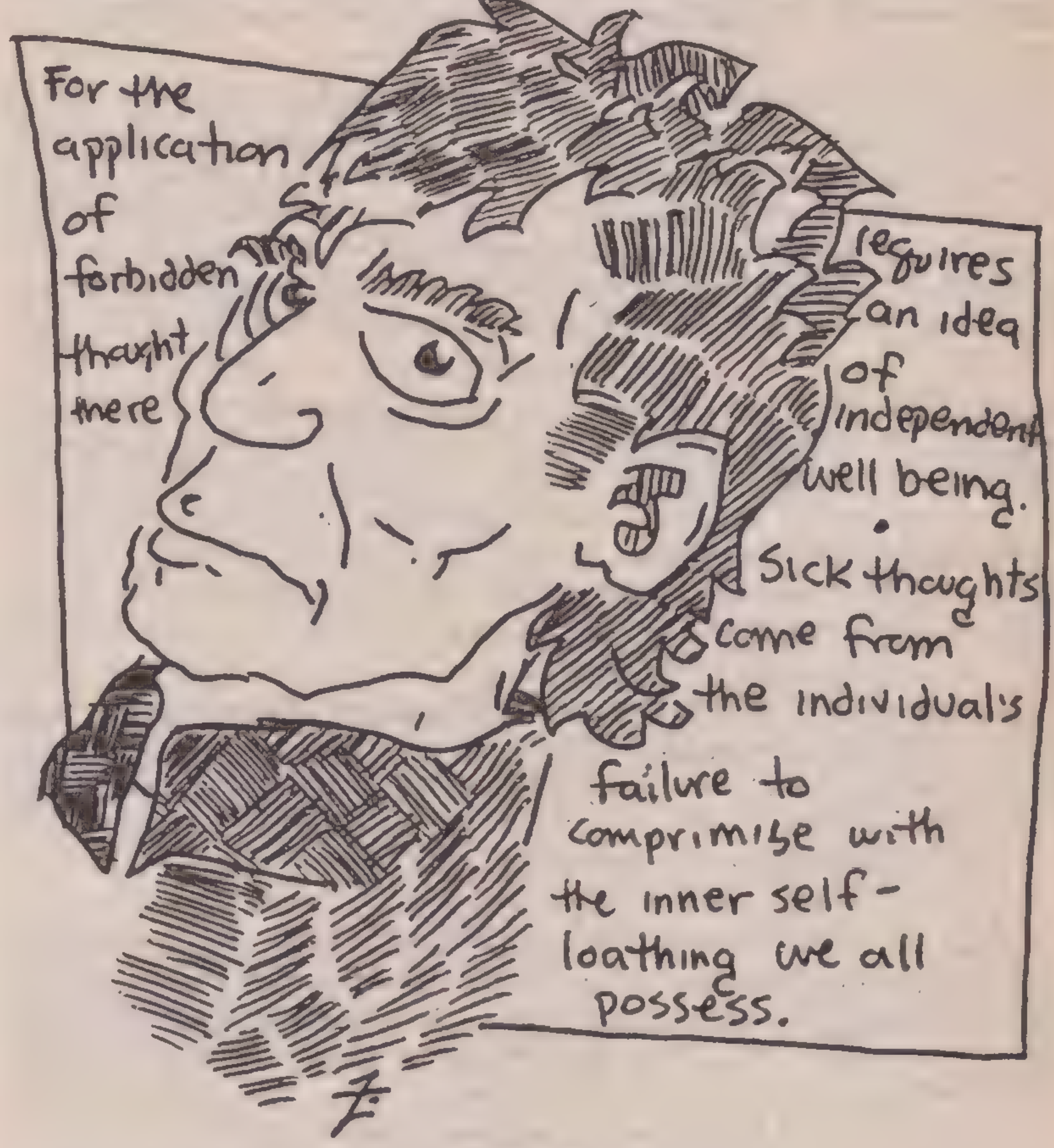
□**THE REUNITY** #1-2 (75¢ from FRSW c/o David Salyers, 14009 Cornuta Ave., Bellflower, CA 90706): The Fellowship of Realist Spiritual Wisdom is a group with some experience in many different religions. Now, within their own framework, they are trying to extract the essential core of spiritual practice. This first issue lays out the basic plans for the group and some general axioms they abide by. (S-7)

★★★★★

RHODE ISLAND MOBILIZATION FOR SURVIVAL NEWSLETTER March 1990 ($10/yr from PO Box 2534, Providence, RI 02906): I don't hear much about the national Mobilization for Survival disarmament group these days, but judging by this paper, it's still active. Lots of events and plans, a legislation watch, international notes on Ireland, South Africa and Israel fill up this issue. (T-8t)

★★★★★

□**RINGSIDE REFLECTOR** Vol. 3 #29-30 ($2 from J.D. McKey, Jr., Rte. 2 Box 291, Louisville, MS 39339): Monthly wrestling coverage that concentrates on opinions rather than news. #29 mostly looks back on '89 and the rest of the last decade, evaluating the players and predicting the future. The editor also includes an article on the role of women in pro wrestling. (S-20)


For the application of forbidden thought there
requires an idea of independent well being.
Sick thoughts come from the individual's failure to comprimise with the inner self-loathing we all possess.
Z

★★★★★

□**ROB'S ROUNDBALL REVIEW** 1989-90 #19-31 (50¢ (?) from PO Box 599, Waynetown, IN 47990-0599): Coverage of Big 10 basketball with special attention to the fortunes of Indiana University. Rob gives detailed descriptions of IU games as well as league standings and individual player stats. #30 reports on coach and media polls picking players of the year. (S-4)

★★★★★

ROBZINE (*TRADES ONLY* from 340 Sunnyside, Toronto, ONT, M6R 2R6, CANADA): A skatezine which is more than just photos of folks skateboarding. Instead the photos are tied together by words and layout, resulting in a very artistic presentation that gets at some of the beauty of the sport. (D-12)

★★★★★

ROLLER SPORTS REPORT #3 ($10/6 issues from Fred Argoff, 1800 Ocean Pkwy., Brooklyn, NY 11223): A zine for fans of all the various incarnation of banked-track roller-skating contact sports running around out there. They cover the history of the game and trivia, as well as current events and rumors. There's some interesting reprint material and photos in this issue. (D-20)

★★★★★

RUBBER PUPPY #6 (75¢ *CASH/Stamps* from Mr. Ed, No Joke Publications, PO Box 50454, Austin, TX 78763-0454): A zine of ranting and railing at the world,. together with poetry and artwork. There's some sexy stuff from Cheryl Townsend here and a great Dr. Seuss ripoff poem. Meanwhile Mr. Ed talks about being harassed by the cops and does a few slapdash zine reviews. (D-24t)

★★★★★

THE RUNNING DINOSAUR #5 (On request from Ralph E. Vaughan, 353 Oxford St., Chula Vista, CA 92011): Reportage of the doings of Ralph's own Running Dinosaur Press, together with reviews of small press books and occasional notes on major authors. In this issue Ralph reviews a bunch of SF and talks about poetry contest scams. (S-4)

★★★★★

□**RURAL MISSOURI** Dec. 1989-Mar. 1990 ($3/yr from 2722 E. McCarty St., Jefferson City, MO 65101): A colorful tabloid put out by the Association of Missouri Electric Cooperatives. Besides the occasional article on the co-op scene, they feature all sorts of farm news, notes on small business, and so on from around the state. February looks at the state of the trapping business and the human consequences of the animal rights pressure; January has a piece on Walt Disney's roots and notes on starting a food coop. (T-20t)

★★★★★

RURAL NETWORK ADVOCATE #73-74 ($10/yr from Rt. 2 Box 150B, Gays Mills, WI 54631): This zine is really just one facet of a big happy family. Full members of RN (at $30 per year) are singles living in outlying areas who want to get together; there's a system for swapping profiles so they can get to know one another. In the **ADVOCATE**, various members write of current projects and future plans, lending a sort of country store atmosphere to the whole. (S-8)

★★★★★

□**RWR MAGAZINE** ($3 from Sal Robert Pauciello, 9 Stanley St., Irvington, NJ 07111): A selection of newspaper clippings from the Reagan years (mostly featuring Reagan, although the MOVE bombing gets a few pages of attention), with alterations and satirical captions. It's apparent that the author doesn't think much of Reagan as a person or President, and some of this stuff is nasty enough to fall flat—but other pages are just chucklesome. (S-24)

★★★★★

□**RWRB SUSHI** #15-17 ($1 from Jeff Mullins, PO Box 36189, San Jose, CA 95158): A wrestling bulletin with a rather satirical approach. Jeff publishes predictions, comics, in-jokes and other cute bits along with fairly serious (well, as serious as you can get) reports on matches and wrestlers. An interesting mix. (S-6r)

★★★★★

THE SACRED COW S.I.G. NEWSLETTER Jan./Feb.-Mar./Apr. 1990 ($1.50 from Barbara Koksal, 3392 Clemens Dr., St. Charles, MO 63301-4440): A Mensa-based forum for freewheeling debate with nothing off-limits. There are revisionists here and passionate jews, racists and sexists, and just plain cranky folks. Not for the easily offended, it ranges from provocative to infuriating.(D-24r)

★★★★★

THE SACRED RECORD Feb. 1990 ($1 from Peyote Way Church of God, Star Route #1, Box 7X, Willcox, AZ 85643): These folks have been in the courts fighting for their right to use peyote as a sacrament for about a decade now, and there's no end in sight. Besides reporting on their tribulations, this newsletter has some spiritual writings from other people who believe in the powers of peyote. (S-10)

★★★★★

□**SACRIFICE THE COMMON SENSE** #1-2 $3 (?) from Humberto Gomez Sequeira-HuGoS, 1251 S. Magnolia Ave. #15, Los Angeles, CA 90006): A litmag which seems to be devoted to exploring topics which some might find distasteful, from sex to aids to the exploitation of workers. They do some stuff in traditional poetic formats, but also have some pages which combine text and graphics in new ways. Hard to say what the editorial stance is, but they seem dedicated to free speech. (S-22)

★★★★★

SACRIFICIAL STATIC #4 ($1 from 1430 Willamette #254, Eugene, OR 97401): A small zine of collage, drawing, and the occasional dyslexic few words. There are a variety of images of hearts and love in this issue, along with scrawls and what seem to be photocopied toothpicks. The purpose? Who knows. (S-20)

★★★★★

□**SAGEWOMAN** #11 ($4.95 from PO Box 5130, Santa Cruz, CA 95063-5130): "A Quarterly Magazine of Women's Spirituality" with articles and contributions form many readers, giving it a friendly, family feeling. This issue's theme is "The Triple Goddess", with many considerations of maiden, mother, and crone—the latter drawing a perhaps surprising amount of interest/. The selection of traditions and approaches is quite eclectic as well. (S-60t)

★★★★★

SALON Winter 1989 ($10/4 issues from Pat Hartman, 305 W. Magnolia #386, Fort Collins, CO 80521): A "Journal of Aesthetics" with Libertarian underpinnings, although they are not forced to the front; but check out the interview with L. Neil Smith for an example. There are lots of thoughts about "Vision" here (the theme) as well as cartoons, essays and reviews, an article on mail art, and some poetry set to illustrations. (S-72)

★★★★★

□**SAMHAIN** #18 ($3.50 [cash rpeferred] from 19 Elm Grove Road, Topsham, Exeter, Devon, EX3 0EQ, UK): A movie magazine with an eye towards horror and related genres and a full-color cover. They include very good coverage of the international movie small press, reviews of both movies and books, and lots of features. In #18 they talk to a pro censor, interview one of the principles of *Bad Taste*, and an article on weird western films. (A4-36t)

★★★★★

SAN JUAN HORSESHOE Jan.-Feb. 1990 ($12/12 issues from PO Box 913, Montrose, CO 81402): There may be some news in this newspaper, but if there is, it's buried in the very odd sense of humor the editor displays. There are an incredible number of gags here, from the 5¢ postage surcharge on postcards mailed in Colorado to the announcement from the Rumanian government that Ceaucescu is no longer a member of the Pepsi Generation. The February issue had a photo essay on omelet making. If you like **OUT WEST**, you should definitely try this one. (T-20t)

★★★★★

SASQUATCH #13 (50¢ from The Prime Minister (of Livestock and Heavy Machinery), PO Box 126, Milford, ME 04461): You never know what's going to pop up in this shaggy dog of fanzines. This time around most of the issue is one short story from the editor, "A Slice of Darkness", a somewhat surreal thing set behind the iron curatin. (S-4t)

★★★★★

SATORI Winter 1990 ($2 from Hands Off The Press, PO Box 318, Tivoli, NY 12583): A spacious-feeling litmag, with each poem and story given plenty of space to breathe in, and a good use of layout and photos to break up the words. Besides the poetry, this issue has an essay on American folk art and an interview with improvisational pianist Marilyn Crispell. (S-20t)

★★★★★

SCAREAPHANALIA #85-86 ($7.50/yr from Michael Gingold, 55 Nordica Dr., Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520): A regular monthly horror film zine that's found a niche and sticks to it. Gingold writes intelligent, concise reviews of both theatrical and video releases, sprinkles in a few photos, and does some industry gossip as well. #85 has a review of *Leatherface* and '89 box-office numbers for a batch of films. #86 looks at *Nightbreed* and *Basket Case II*. (HL-6)

★★★★★

SCHMAGA Vol. 1 #2 ($1 from Jim Kern, 436 Indiana St., Vallejo, CA 94590): A small review of the arts, with emphasis on unknowns and smaller folks. This issue has a collage collective, the vanished punk singer Honey Bane, and an outfit called Artists' Alliance. There's also woodcut illustrations cadged from here and there and the first part of a story of transcontinental obsession. (D-32)

★★★★★

□**SCIENCE WATCH** Vol. 1 #1 ($245/11 issues from ISI, 3501 Market St., Philadelphia, PA 19104): You've seen the Billboard music charts...well, this is the same idea for scientific papers. ISI, the Institute for Scientific Information, tracks the most-quoted scientific papers and uses this information to make sage statements about the development of science—a point of view that I find at least a bit strange. (S-8t)

★★★★★

SCORE REVIEW #22-24 ($2/4 issues from 491 Mandana Blvd. #3, Oakland, CA 94610): A single-sheet review of the experimental arts (very broadly defined—#24 considers Gorby's interaction with Lithuania as a subject) from the printed experioddica to the musical world. Each one is written by a different person and appears at irregular intervals, so it's always a surprise. (S-2)

★★★★★

SCORE SHEET #35-36 ($2/4 issues from 491 Mandana Blvd. #3, Oakland, CA 94610): This complements the **SCORE REVIEW** by presenting experimental works of printed nature. Ed Mycue's scribbled homage to the San Francisco earthquake in #36 is moderately interesting, as jerky as the original experience and at least as informative as the baseball announcers were that night. (S-2)

★★★★★

SCREAM #7 ($5 from PO Box 10363, Raleigh, NC 27605): Now publishing twice a year, **SCREAM** remains an exciting meld of literature and comics. This issue has half a dozen short stories, of which I particularly enjoyed "Band Sounds Like Car Crash" by Scott Jarvis, which reads like every punker's dream. Then there's the "Rollywood Funny Papers" insert, with some of the best underground comics work of today, including Ace Backwords on LSD and inserted minis from Matt Feazell and Larry Towsley. (S-64t)

★★★★★

THE SECOND STONE #8 ($2.25 from PO Box 8340, New Orleans, LA 70182): A national newspaper for gay and lesbian Christians which contains a great deal of news on the antics of the right wing in opposing gays at all levels of society. The cover story this time is on Project 10, a support group for gay and lesbian youth in LA which has drawn much fire. They also have an interesting list of charities and their stands on hiring gay staffers. (T-20t)

★★★★★

□**SEIZE THE DUCK** #1 ($1 from PO Box 124, Kalamazoo, MI 49005): "The LUV Issue", though what the contents have to do with that I can't tell. In fact, it's hard to tell what they have to do with anything. I enjoyed the article on cartoon physics, was baffled by most of the short stories, and scratched my head over the Apgar Test and the paean to Kate Bush. (S-24t) @HEADING = SEX

★★★★★

□**NAUGHTY NAKED DREAMGIRLS** #1 ($1 from Andrew Roller, PO Box 221295, Sacramento, CA 95822): The beginnings of a serialized story designed to titillate horny guys, or possibly horny women—though I suspect the audience for naked dinners and wine enemas is heavily skewed towards the male sex. Andrew also runs some comics reviews here, probably because he has too many of them to get them all into his other zines. (S-10t)

★★★★★

THE SHAKESPEHERIAN RAG Vol. 1 #4 ($10/4 issues from PO Box 442001, Lawrence, KS 66044): A journal of essays in the "man of letters:" tradition. It's a mixed bag, from poetry which struck me as rather *too* stuck up to a delightful article on the importance of coffee cups to the world. More seriously, there are ruminations on what true prosperity is and the friction between religion and science. (S-10t)

★★★★★

SHEER FILTH #8 ($2 from David Flint, 39 Holly Street, Offerton, Stockport, SK1 4DP, UK): A film zine which spends many of its pages on the hardcore pornography end of the spectrum, including in this issue a look at the disturbingly violent films of Ilona Staller (now in the Italian parliament). There are also quite a few book reviews, many critical of the sensationalistic approach of their authors. (S5-32r)

★★★★★

SHENANDOAH NEWSLETTER Vol. 16#12 ($10/yr from 736 W. Oklahoma St., Appleton, WI 54911): A Native American newsletter with an overtly political slant. They cover news from all over the country as it applies to their peoples, and touch on everything from prisoners' rights to the Wisconsin spearfishing dispute. (S-21)

★★★★★

SHITFEAST #5 ($1 from Asylum Press [don't put the zine name on the envelope], PGPO Box 5026Y, Melbourne, Vic., 3001, AUSTRALIA): A magazine of gore and grossness. There's a continuing series on the deranged street people of Melbourne, tips on which medical trade journals have the best photos, and an essay on the fighting style of the Australian male. If it has to do with bodily functions, it'll probably show up here sooner or later. (D-16t)

★★★★★

□**SHOCK CINEMA** #1 ($3 from Steve Puchalski, 1108 E. Genesee St. #013, Syracuse, NY 13210): Lament no more about the death of **SLIMTIME**, because Steve is back with more of the same reviews of bizarre and genre movies—only in a bigger and better format. Before getting into the obscure flicks, he christens this issue by asking other zine editors to list their own favorite underrated films. Hot stuff. (S-24r)

★★★★★

SHORT FUSE #43 ($1 from Holden, PO Box 90436, Santa Barbara, CA 93198-0436): A collection of creative work, printed unedited. Over time there seems to have been a shift away fro the visual and towards the written word, especially poetry. This issue has a nice "US Off of Turtle Island" poster, and a curious poem by Jan Beastrom about gorillas eating cats. (S-22)

★★★★★

SHOTS #19 ($2 from 304 S 4th, Danville, KY 40422): This photography magazine is not about equipment but about the pictures, which are left to speak for themselves in a spacious format. It's a co-op sort of place, with readers encouraged to submit images and a lot of them taking up the challenge. Includes friendly discussion of who's up to what in Shoits-land and plenty of cool photos. (S-48)

★★★★★

SIAMESE DATE #2 ($1 (?) from Erik, 1828 Kilbourne Pl. NW, Washington, DC 20010): A collection of offbeat literary work which tries to stay out of established molds. There's a page of legalese which appears to relate to the sale of a soul, an animist paradigm for understanding modern physics, and a comic (?) which reverses the usual ratio of words to pictures. (S-14)

★★★★★

SIGNAL INTERNATIONAL #68-70 ($10 from PO Box 150, FI-15111 Lahti, FINLAND): An international pen-pal magazine with hundreds of listings and photos. They employ a sort of code to get the most possible into each ad, which come with subscriptions. Gets all over the world and reaches people in many lands and languages. (A4-16r)

★★★★★

SIGN OF THE TIMES Vol. 4 #3 ($15/4 issues from Studio 403, PO Box 70672, Seattle, WA 98107-0672): Still lots of goodies in this meticulously-produced litmag; Lawrence Oberc art and computer graphic heads give it a slick look. In the word portion, Joan Cacciatore Mazza's "Fantasy Girl" is a disturbing tale of a complex life, while Ron Childress presents "Another Sisyphean Masterpiece", a deranged tale of punk sex. There's lots more here too, enjoyable as always. (S-32t)

★★★★★

THE SILLY CLUB P.U.N. Vol. III #6 ($10/yr from PO Box 536583, Orlando, FL 32853): A humor magazine which sets the stage for its style by the title acronym, which stands for Play On Words. They do a lot of shaggy doggish stuff, with this issue including a playlet of the Antichrist getting married, some reminiscences of a childhood club, and the true (?) story of the death of Glenn Miller. (S-8t)

★★★★★

SIMPLE COOKING Winter 1990 ($16/4 issues from John Thorne, PO Box 58, Castine, ME 04421): A magazine of food lore, food philosophy, and recipes—together with the bonus insert **MANGE TOUT**, which reviews cookbooks. In this issue John considers chicken cooked with 40 cloves of garlic, split pea soup, and what he's learned in ten years of publishing this magazine. (S-12t)

★★★★★

SINCE 1984 BEATKIT UNTIL 2000 #14 ($2 (?) from Shawn Wolfe, 1624 1/2 15th Ave. #5, Seattle, WA 98122): I'm not sure what is going on here; even the title typography is confusing. Inside we have a number of essays and drawings, all or most swiped from other published sources. Plagiarism at its best, since it's apparently done without any connection to the art movement of the same name. An enigmatic collection of flotsam from the collective unconscious. (D-54)

★★★★★

SINGIN' DOSE ANTI-PSYCHOTIC BLUES #6 ($1.50 *CASH/Stamps ONLY* & Age Statement from Frank's Zine, 4417 18th Ave. #166, Brooklyn, NY 11204): Frank asks that you leave the zine name off the envelope, which is understandable, considering the contents. Frank is a psychopath, and the zine is a collection of clippings and pictures on mass murders, amputations, killing people, and other disgusting subjects. This issue includes an essay in which Frank makes suggestions on maximizing your kill-count should you decide to go berserk with a gun. (S-70)

★★★★★

SIVULLINEN #11 $1 from Jouni Wäärӓkangas, Poste Restante, 00980 Helsinki 98, FINLAND): A collection of gory and polemical graphics, interspersed with bits of poetry, lyrics and ranting from the underground. Most of the work here is superb, and Jouni's lettering on the written parts lends an attractive look to the whole. Comic Trash, Joe E., Bob Z and Mick Cusimano are among the contributors. (A5-32)

★★★★★

□**SKULL** #1 ($2.50 from First SubGenius Apostolic Church, PO Box 8622, Salem, MA 01971): A new SubGenius zine has hit the streets, and this is it. The major feature in the premiere is an interview with Janor Hypercleets. They also feature a guide to deranged movies, some notes on new saints, and disgusting graphics. (S-20)

★★★★★

SLAMMING DEAD #1 (2 25¢ stamps from Dr. Death, 4336 Byesville Blvd., Dayton, OH 45431): A zine from someone basically fascinated with death and other morbid things. It features (very short) interviews with Antiseen and Clive Barker, plus a bondage fantasy and some monster pictures. (S-10)

★★★★★

SLF #2 ($1.50 from LW Swan, 2062 E. 115th St., Cleveland, OH 44106): The initials stand for "Semiotic Liberation Front", and what they're liberating is the images of mass conditioning in society. In a mix of collage, plagiarism and original artworks, this one nibbles around the edges of the images that control us all. (D-40)

★★★★★

SLINGSHOT #33 (Donation from 700 Eshleman Hall, Berkeley, CA 94720): A rather feisty anarchist newspaper from UC Berkeley. You can tell they're from Berkeley because most of a page of fine print is given over to legal updates from recent actions. They also publish a fascinating open forum section, where community members talk about what's on their minds. A pro-choice demo headlines this issue. (T-8t)

★★★★★

SMALL PRESS MONTHLY Vol. 2 #4 (£1 from BM Bozo, London WC1N 3XX, UK): This is one of the activities of the Small Press Group, a bunch of marginal publishers who are swapping ideas and contacts. Much of the reportage here is on a recent small press fair in New York. There are also various letters and news bits, giving a peek at some of the activity in England. (A4-16t)

★★★★★

SMALL PRESS REVIEW Vol. 22 #1-2 ($18/yr from Dustbooks, PO Box 100, Paradise, CA 95967): Len Fulton and company continue to cover the "small press"—litmags and poetry zines—with aplomb seldom found elsewhere. Short reviews highlight particular items, new mags and contests are announced, and Laurel Speer and Merritt Clifton provide entertaining columns. In #1, Merritt announces his own plans for a retrenchment of **SAMISDAT**. In #2 Laurel Speer issues some well-deserved praise for Todd Moore's epic **DILLINGER** poem-cycle. (S-16t)

★★★★★

□**SMILE** Vol. 5 #7 ($3/yr from PO Box 827, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675): No, this is not a Neoist magazine. Rather, it's for fans of Kit-Cat, whose silly smiling face you may have seen on those waggin-tail wall clocks. They want to make the world a happy place...and, perhaps, sell some clocks. Cute and directed mostly at youngsters. (S-8t)

★★★★★

THE SNOPESES GO CAMPING #2 ($1 from Stephanie du Plessis, PO Box 4697, San Francisco, CA 94101): A serialized white trash novel, which gets a tad more bizarre (if such a thing were possible) in #2. Grandma goes to the mall to meet June Allyson in this installment, leading to a wild spate of events involving Elvis and a batch of tabloid reporters. Funny stuff. (D-20)

★★★★★

□**SOCIAL ISSUES ESSAYS** Vol. 1 #1-4 ($1.25 from Robert E. Schlichter, 1200 W. Retta Esplanade #B-49, Punta Gorda, FL 33950-5339): A short newsletter of essays from a socialist point of view. #1 looks at health care, while #4 considers the changes in Eastern Europe and the chances for socialism in today's America. (L-2t)

★★★★★

THE SOCIALIST Jan.-Mar. 1990 ($1 from 5502 W. Adams Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90016): The official newsletter of the Socialist Party, a reasonably old and upright group. They tend towards an intellectual presentation, explaining once again in January why socialism is a viable (indeed, necessary) option, and whey charges that it has "failed" are wrong. There's also an interesting exchange on the place of cooperatives in a socialist economy. (S-12t)

★★★★★

SOCIAL VOMIT #7 ($1 from Mike Canich, PO Box 31, Romeo, MI 48065): Well, the centerpiece here is probably Mike's "Clyde" comic, but there's plenty of other to enjoy too. His stream of reviews of zines, comics and music are cool, as is his explanation of the tortured psyche behind the art. On the other hand, Mike McElhenney's short short story was just a bit *too* gross. (S-22)

★★★★★

SOL RISING #4 ($20/yr from The Friends of the Spaced Out Library, 40 St. George St., Toronto, ONT, M5S 2E4, CANADA): The Spaced Out Library maintains a serious collection of science fiction, and does its best to make this collection available and useful. This newsletter lists events and news, prints lists of Canadian SF awards, and carries other articles of interest to SF bibliofiles. (S-8t)

★★★★★

SOMEPLACE LIKE EARTH #6 (50¢ from Chris Caggiano, 1737 Grove St., Ridgewood, NY 11385): A collection of articles from the underbelly of politics—the decaying nuclear infrastructure, the war on drugs—reprinted without permission from mainstream sources. Chris also throws in his own commentary and is looking for submissions from anyone with something to say. (D-24r)

★★★★★

SOMETHING SHORT #3 (SASE from Daniel Ust, 321 Maple St. #49, Perth Amboy, NJ 08861): A collection of short stories and essays, often a bit disquieting. Kim Carsons pursues a character until he dies; Hitaki Ryako examines the question of whether we should build a better dog just to make it a pet. (S-8)

★★★★★

□**SOMNIAL TIMES** Vol. 1 #6 ($1 from Gloria Reiser, 1253 Park Pl., Quincy, IL 62301): This one comes from the Mensa Dreamers Special Interest Group, for people who want to discuss and interpret possibly significant dreams. They encourage active reader participation, and several send in their dreams and ideas for reprint in this issue. Lucid, precognitive and creative dreaming are of especial itnerest. (S-6t)

★★★★★

☐**S.O.R.E.** Vol. 1 #2 ($1 (?) from UIA, 53 Nipigon St., Kitchener, ONT, N2B 3N2, CANADA): A high school paper put together by the Underground Independent Acronym—or perhaps the actual name is UIA, though the title I've listed is in much bigger letters. Anyhow, they poke fun at all sorts of school cliques, publish offensive comics, and do some serious editorializing. (S-6)

★★★★★

SOUTHERN LIBERTARIAN MESSENGER Vol. XVIII #8-9 ($6/yr from Rt. 10 Box 52A, Florence, SC 29501): In addition to the usual clippings and editorial cartoons poking fun at the government, this issue has more essay material than usual. This includes Bob Brakeman's long examination of the political significance of Peter Pan and a batch of reprinted letters to the editor. (S-12r)

★★★★★

☐**SOUTHERN READER** Vol. 1 #2 ($12.95/yr from PO Box 1827, Oxford, MS 38655): An excellently-produced magazine of Southern culture, history, and books. This issue includes a historian's look at George Wallace, notes on the pollution problem around Atlanta, excerpts from several books (including the delightful collection of outrageous politicians **THEY LOVE A MAN IN THE COUNTRY**) and book reviews. Pretty impressive stuff. (S-76t)

★★★★★

☐**THE SPARK** #8-9 ($1 (?) from Chowder, 117 Center St., Fredonia, NY 14063): An alternative paper from the Fredonia campus of the State University. They manage to stir up a fair bit of controversy by being outrageously leftist in spots, print some 800 numbers to harass, delve into racism on campus, and give a forum to local comics artists and nuts. On the other hand, the printing quality is miserably bad; you have to be dedicated to slog through this faint mimeo. (S-10)

★★★★★

SPECTRUM #11 ($10/yr from 58 Webster St., Laconia, NH 03246): "The Wholistic News Magazine" rounds up stuff about diet, medicine, environment, society, and other fields from a slightly New Age but rather hardheaded point of view. They are skeptical at times, and give sources for everything they quote. I guess "wellness" is perhaps the overarching theme here—wellness for ourselves and for our planet. This issue includes an interview with Walter Burstein, a doctor fighting against food irradiation. (S-36t)

★★★★★

☐**SPENT BRASS** #1 (The Usual, I presume, from Smuttering Hall, 315 N. Ingersoll St., Madison, WI 53703): A new SF fanzine which intends to concentrate on fandom and what makes it special, along with SF itself. There are cranky zine review, horrifying recursive comics, and a longish essay on why small cons are better than big cons. Friendly and enjoyable, like an evening of conversation with a friend you've never met. (S-16)

★★★★★

SPEW AND REVIEW #38 (SASE from Bob Konshak, 422 4th St. SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414): A single sheet of ranting, humor, and music. The main feature in this issue explains how to have a good time at the movies, in case you missed out during your obnoxious years. Bob also reviews a few tapes, and prints oddball clippings in the margins. (S-2)

★★★★★

THE SPIRITUAL REVOLUTIONARY #10 ($3 from S/R Press, PO Box 60327, Palo Alto, CA 94306-0327): An open forum conducted by Kyle and Luna Griffith. Kyle is the author of **WAR IN HEAVEN**, and this newsletter continues the work he did there in trying to explain the occult battle for the control of the world and our souls. Many people are getting hooked into this network, and the conversation skips from Casteneda to Scientology to SubGenius almost without a break. (S-20)

★★★★★

SPIT Vol. 1 #1 ($2 from East River Spit, 529 2nd St., Brooklyn, NY 11215): A new litmag from a group that's determined to spotlight and help out "emerging artists", focusing on young ones in New York, but open to work from anywhere and in any genre. Standouts in this issue include David Liss's story "The Dairy Blast" and Laurie Gwen Shapiro's poem "The Skinnydippers". They also run local shows and generally seem to be a dedicated group. (S-54t)

★★★★★

☐**SPRAK!** #1 ($1 *CASH* from Kami, PO Box 399, Kingswood SA 5062, AUSTRALIA): Mostly film review here, although Kami does get into zines and even some new music towards the end. The movies are pretty much genre stuff, but because of production and distribution I've never heard of many of them, from *Pin* to *Intruder*. There's a nice back cover from Luna Ticks on this issue as well. (A4-14r)

★★★★★

☐**SPU** Volume ! Issue @ and # ($3 (?) from OCA, 100 McCaul St., Toronto, ONT, M5T 1W1, CANADA): A student journal from the Ontario College of Art. While many of these pages are focused on art itself, perhaps more are devoted to the social environment of the college itself, with concerns about employment equity, the environment, and student recruitment high on the list. Apparently the College even listens to the students sometimes, putting it ahead of most institutions of higher learning. (S-48t)

★★★★★

☐**SRRT NEWSLETTER** #93 ($10/4 issues from SRRT/ALA, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611): The newsletter of the American Library Association's Social Responsibilities Round Table. Mostly it reports on resolutions of the SRRT on topics such as librarian contacts with South Africa and China. They also review a few books which offer socially responsible alternatives. (S-12)

★★★★★

THE STAMP ACT Winter 1990 ($2 from Steven Brian Bieler, 7307 6th Ave. NW, Seattle, WA 98117): A space for people who like to work in the art medium of the rubber stamp to show off their skills. They print a lot of work which seems to me to wallow in shaggy dog type humor, but that's OK; I like that sort of thing. Looking for more constributing subscribers. (S-20)

★★★★★

THE STARK FIST OF REMOVAL No. 41/42, Vol. 17 ($4.95 from The SubGenius Foundation, PO Box 140306, Dallas, TX 75214): Yes, at long last another issue of the official SubGenius magazine is out, so if you want to see what all the fuss is about, you can get an up-to-date idea. Most of this is esoterica that you have to be a church member to understand, centering chiefly around "Bob"'s death and revival. But there's also notes on various items the Church has for sale, rants and brags, head-launchings, and much more. The SubGenial spirit is nowhere near dead yet. (S-128t)

★★★★★

STAR ROUTE JOURNAL Vol. 8 #1 ($10/yr from PO Box 1451, Redway, CA 95560-1451): There's hope left in the world yet, as I am reminded every time I read an issue of SRJ. This comes out of Northern California, and deals with the values of the hippies as they've survived and changed, and with current social action. Short stories, interviews, letters and essays make for pleasant and informative and inspiring reading. (T-20t)

★★★★★

☐**STICKY CARPET DIGEST** #1-2 (75¢ from 86 Willow St., Floral Park, NY 11001): The first issue didn't get reviewed last time because they omitted their address; fortunately that has been fixed and I can now tell you about another zine for video and movie fans. Yup, they review all sorts of trash, with a medley in the first issue ranging from an analysis of Elvis's movie career to the new Rollergames to *Tag: The Assassination Game*. #2 is a special theme issue, focused on vampire movies of the oddball sort. Good writing and fun ideas (like the no-holds-barred review debates between different staffers) make this worth reading, although the graphic design is pretty primitive. (S-24)

★★★★★

STIRSIL Vol. 1 #2-3 (50¢ & 50¢ SASE from PO Box 16492, c/o University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996-4800): The title is an acronym for "Something That I Read Standing In Line", and this is a literary tabloid that carries a fairly wide range of work. Most of it, while college-anchored, is not specific to the U of T. Eric Hake's tales of his "vacation" in #2 were most amusing. (T-12t)

★★★★★

THE STONE & SLING Vol. 1 #7-Vol. 2 #1 (SASE from Pagan Angel, 1205 Co. Rt. 60, Rexville, NY 14877): The state of New York wants to dump its nukewaste in Allegany County. A growing number of residents of the county think that's a lousy idea. So they're openly rebelling, forming human and car barricades to prevent the state from even inspecting proposed sites. So far they're winning. Pretty inspiring, actually. This newsletter chronicles the fight and prints short essays and poetry as well. (S-12)

★★★★★

STORM WARNING #14 ($1 from Vietnam Veterans Against the War (Anti-Imperialist), 4710 University Way NE #1612, Seattle, WA 98105): A zine of hardcore opposition to the present political system from disgruntled vets. They're really heavy into flagburning these days, and this issue has statements from 8 of the most prominent folks indicted for that act, as well as more media reviews and notes on what it was really like in Vietnam. (D-24t)

★★★★★

STREET Feb. 1990 ($20/yr from PO Box 441019, Somerville, MA 02144): A magazine of social activism (with a strong focus on homelessness and what can or should be done about it) and culture in Boston. They chat with the Frogs and Ski-a-Delics, discuss high-tech wet dreams for the future, and give the lowdown on the National Guard's attempt to ingratiate themselves to the working press. Lots to chew on here, in a new magazine format. (S-74t)

★★★★★

STROKER #44 ($9/3 issues from Irv Stettner, 129-2nd Ave. #3, New York, NY 10003): I find that a taste for **STROKER** needs to be cultivated, but once you have done that, each issue is a delight. This literary magazine is well off the beaten path of today's small presses, featuring the art and writing of prison artist Tommy Trantino, excerpts from Henry Miller's letters, and another chapter of Stettner's own delightful recollections of Paris and elsewhere. A self-contained world that repays the effort needed to gain entry. (D-48)

★★★★★

☐**THE STRUGGLE** #32 ($10/12 issues from Middle East Crisis Committee, PO Box 8993, New Haven, CT 06352): News about the Palestinian Intifada and the connections of Israel to the American power structure. They bring out once again the human costs of Israeli occupation, although their coverage is not surprisingly a bit one-sided. (HL-12t)

★★★★★

☐**STYLUS** #5 ($5/6 issues from PO Box 1716, Portland, OR 97207): This "eclectic review of music & books" certainly is. Ian Frazier and his book **GREAT PLAINS** is the headline here, flanked on one side by Peter Gabriel's CD of the *Last Temptation of Christ* music and on the other by three different recordings of Back suites. A new genre of Arabic punk called rai also gets a sidebar. Literate and unusual. (S-4t)

★★★★★

SUBHUMAN #15 ($1.25 & Age Statement from Cecil Doyle, PO Box 53735, Lafayette, LA 70505-3735): A zine for the fan of the trashy movie. In this issue the editor reviews a couple of porn flicks (not the usual content here), while others talk about films for necrophiliacs or "The Mask". Nice typesetting and good attention to layout makes this a fast read, and the writers rise above the usual gore and breast worship of the film zines. (D-16t)

★★★★★

SUBJECT TO CHANGE #11 ($3 from ANVA, 37 Pearson Ave., Toronto, ONT, M6R 1G3, CANADA): The Alliance for Non-Violent Action is involved in civil disobedience on a lot of fronts—chiefly in solidarity with Native Peoples and the planet itself. Their magazine reports primarily on CD actions which have happened and their consequences, though there is some general social analysis as well—as with the Montreal murderer in this issue. (S-44t)

★★★★★

THE SUBTLE JOURNAL OF RAW COINAGE #29-30 (35¢ & a stamp from Geof Huth, 225 State St. #451, Schenectady, NY 12305): New words collected like rare butterflies and pinned down in a variety of unlikely formats. #29 is a little chapbook, full of strange academic or pseudo-academic words collected by David Kopaska-Merkel. #30 has three poem words from Jake Berry, printed on computer labels. Both issues feature the title in colored rubber-stamping. (MM-15;M-1)

★★★★★

SUDS 'N' STUFF Vol. 7 #1 ($14.95/6 issues from Beer Drinkers International, PO Box 566402, Oceanside, CA 92056): This newsletter is about to grow into a larger magazine, with color and even more beer news than it has now. Already they've been publishing such news for years, with reviews, recipes, and notes about the beer industry. (S-8t)

★★★★★

THE SURVIVOR Vol. 7 #8 ($10/12 issues from Kurt Saxon, PO Box 327, Harrison, AR 72601): Saxon's readers are still writing in with more ideas on how to kill people, but he seems to have moved on to bigger pastures with this issue. Topics include surviving the collapse of the universe, interstellar travel, and a homemade atomic bomb (the catch, of course, is getting the Uranium). Juxtaposed with old-time games and technical hints, this makes for a rather surreal effect. (T-16)

★★★★★

SWEAT POTATO #2 ($1 & 1 25¢ stamp from Fletcher Moore, PO Box 8565, Murfreesboro, TN 37132): A zine of mixed contents, from flagburning to stick figure comics. There's an article on the positive effects of nuclear war, a White Boy poetry pamphlet (and some other poems) and computer graphics. Next issue is going to be on the themes of "Freedom of Speech" and "Hate", in case you have something to submit. (D-20)

★★★★★

☐**TALKING LEAVES** #10 ($15/yr from 1430 Willamette #367, Eugene, OR 97401): A New Age networking tabloid that seems to be more thoughtful and solid than some of its ilk. The articles here generally reach beyond platitudes to try from some genuine understanding—and they also have Swami Beyondananda poking fun, always a healthy sign. The traditional directory of local services is also present. (T-20t)

★★★★★

TAP #97 (1 stamp from PO Box 20264, Louisville, KY 40220): A newsletter for phone phreaks, hackers, and other technological outlaws. This issue includes information on getting more for your money from parking meters, a good introductory guide to hacking, and a recipe for firebombs, as well as editorial stuff on their ideals and policies. (D-20r)

★★★★★

TAPADANCE #137 (Contact Art Delano, 99 Marion St. #2, Somerville, MA 02143): A general-interest apa (i.e., one not devoted to any particular topic) that's centered on the SF fan universe, but members talk about most anything, from magic to computers. They seem to be an active and close-knit bunch, and if you'd like some new friends to write to, get in touch with Art for details on joining. (S-93)

★★★★★

TAPE UPDATE Vol. 2 #15-16 (50¢ from Brian Tramel, 1806 Self Cir. #B, Jonesboro, AR 72401): Brian is into videotapes of pro wrestling and this zine mostly exists to describe additions to his collection and tell you how to get them. However, it's also got plenty of wrestling commentary and opinion. He's also got t-shirts for sale, the latest being one with "Hulk Sucks" prominently displayed. (M-20r)

★★★★★

☐**TAPLIGHT** Vol. III #4 (Complimentary copy on request from 1827 E. Mississippi Ave., Denver, CO 80210): "A monthly forum for healing our pain and celebrating our spirit", this one has a happy New Age feel without pushing any particular programme. There are for example a selection of affirmations in the back but no demands as to how you should use them. The bulk of this issue is people's own stories on finding happiness in life—a well-lit room, a kazoo, children's footprints in the snow. (S-8t)

★★★★★

TARANIKI UNDERGROUND #19 (NZ$24/yr from Fly in the Ointment Press, PO Box 39, Postal Delivery Centre, Oakura, Taraniki (NEW ZEALAND)): An anarchist zine with a punk feel to it, helped along in this issue by their blast a a local paper for smearing punks. There's also demonstrations and events, comics, and international political news. Effective use of a large format. (O-12)

★★★★★

□**A TASTE OF LATEX** #1 ($3 from Lily Braindrop, PO Box 460122, San Francisco, CA 94146-0122): A new sexzine for those who want to explore "a Sexual Smorgasbord". There's an interview with Annie Sprinkle, a couple of hot photo spreads, and an article that tries to demystify sadomasochism as it is currently practiced. Open to all orientations, and with some emphasis on safe sex. (S-20t)

★★★★★

TAX WATCH Vol. II #1 (Donation from SCAT, PO Box 50799, Columbia, SC 29250): The irregular newsletter of the South Carolina Association of Taxpayers. They keep an eye on the state government, aiming to cut taxes, and are now gearing up to introduce their own bills. Takes a libertarian point of view. (HL-4r)

★★★★★

TEA TALK Vol. 1 #4 ($12.95/4 issues from 419 N. Larchmont #225, Los Angeles, CA 90004): A newsletter "on the Pleasures of Tea". They discuss places to take afternoon tea in Southern California, recipes for tea bread, and in general the entire spectrum of culture and history surrounding this drink. The cover story is on a third-generation tea taster and the Lipton Research Station. (S-8t)

★★★★★

TEL QUEL Vol. 1 #5 $2.50 from Jackie Carriere, CP 792, Granby, QC, J2G 8W8, CANADA): A bilingual (French-Englis) collection of stories, drawings, and comics. They wallow in the down side of life: prostitution, snuff movies, child sex and drunkenness all get their spot in the sun here. There's also a few lighter pages, notably silly cartoons from Boze. (D-52r)

★★★★★

TEXTURE #5 ($1 from 1621 16th St., Boulder, CO 80302): A fairly wide-ranging tabloid of the arts. This is the "Burn This Issue", with a lot of freedom of speech and flag-burning stuff inside. They also glance at the local music zine, denounce injustice and poverty in the US, and generally try to point out some alternative voices. Send 'em $5 and they'll throw in some spiffy color photocopy prints as well. (T-8t)

★★★★★

□**THINK FOR YOURSELF, SCHMUCK!** #1-6 (25¢ to $2 postage donation from PO Box 22551, Memphis, TN 38122-0551): A ranting, raving look at the world form a point of view obviously influenced by the **ILLUMINATUS!** trilogy. The editor, Spartacus, opens each issue by railing against complacency, and then reprints stuff: suppressed history lessons, drug recipes, conspiracy theory, underground comics, and more. Anarchist culture from the margins. (S-40)

★★★★★

□**THIRD WAY** Vol. 2 #1-2 ($2 from Box 108, 225 Wyandotte St. E., Windsor, ONT, N9A 3H5, CANADA): This is the US version of Britain's National Front, a "third way" in politics between Fascism and Communism. They're really into separation of races and the building of a strong white youth culture, and direct themselves mostly at young hardcore kids. Personally, I'm not too impressed, though some of the nasty things they say about other far-right groups are amusing. (S-20)

★★★★★

THIS MONTH IN MAINE LITERATURE Vol. IV #11 ($20/yr from 19D Mason St., Brunswick, ME 04011): The title says Maine, but actually this should be of interest to anyone who cares about writing or the small press. Their focus is on books by Mainers, but they delve into both the business and pleasure ends of writing, and offer discounts on many books to subscribers. (T-12t)

★★★★★

THE THOUGHT Vol. 9 #12-Vol. 10 #2 ($1 from PO Box 3092, Orange, CA 92665): A journal of philosophy, opinion, Libertarianism—and occasionally stranger things, such as editor Ron Tobin's Objectivist vampire story, starting in #12. The story concludes in #1 with the introduction of a mad Libertarian Royalist as a bit player. That issue also features Carol Moore's thoughts on New Age perspectives on abortion and Bob Black on the Art Strike. (S-22)

★★★★★

THRILLHAMMER Vol. 2 #8 ($2.50 from Christopher Erin, PO Box 20548, Wichita, KS 67208): The bulk of this zine is a single essay, which offers some suggestions on what human rights organizations can do to help eliminate homophobia—small things, like including gays and lesbians in their activities explicitly and focusing on the purveyors of homophobia rather than the victims. There's also a poem to cap things off. (S-10)

★★★★★

THUNDERBOW II #5-7 (SASE for sample from Church of Seven Arrows, PO Box 185, Wheatridge, CO 80034-0185): A newsletter for pagans and others interested in "Earth Religions". They do a variety of divinations for the future, report on ecological and geological news, and chronicle some of the doings of the CSA, which is active in teaching people their own brand of paganism. (S-6r)

★★★★★

□**TINSEL IGUANA** #1 ($1 from 601 S. 6th Ave., St. Charles, IL 60174): A collection of dark comics, strange short stories, and reprinted stuff. There's a smiling plumber on the back cover, for example. The point of this all isn't exactly clear, but there do seem to be creative juices stewing here. (S-25)

★★★★★

TOUCHPOINT Vol. 3 #1 ($4 from Stanfield Major III, 27 Music Sq. E #169, Nashville, TN 37203): A contact newsletter for people seeking caring non-monogomous relationships. Some of the folks here print their addresses, others have contacts forwarded from the zines, but in general they're all looking for long-term commitment. Nationwide though not heavy coverage. (S-8r)

★★★★★

□**TRADITIONS SOUTHWEST** #1 ($4 from PO Box 7725, Albuquerque, NM 87194): Although this is "The Adobe & Folk Art Magazine", in fact most of the premiere issue is dedicated to the semi-vanished art of building with adobe. In particular, they run a number of articles on the classic adobe churches of New Mexico and the various successes and failures encountered in trying to preserve them. Very passionate about its chosen topic. (O-44t)

★★★★★

TRANET #62 ($30/yr from PO Box 567, Rangeley, ME 04970): This newsletter is a place for activists and visionaries from many movements—appropriate technology, feminist, ecological, alternative economic, and more—to come together and swap information. #62 is the annual members' bulletin board issue, with notes and hopes of the subscribers and supporters of this network. (S-8t)

★★★★★

□**TRASH BARREL** (SASE from Donald Franson, 6543 Babcock Ave., N. Hollywood, CA 91606): I hesitate to review this, as its availability is not crystal clear; however, the worst that Don can do is put a note in your envelope telling you what a jerk I am. Anyhow, the zine is a single sheet of fanzine reviews, mainly oriented towards the SF set, ranging from small local zines to relatively well-known fen to the Noreascon Souvenir Book. (S-2)

★★★★★

TRASH COMPACTOR Vol. 2 #4 ($3.50 from 253 College St. #108, Toronto, ONT M5T 1R5, CANADA): A film zine which focuses each issue on a different facet of the underbelly of movies. This time around it's gay films, including a great piece by the folks from J.D.s. Basil Wolverton is present in word and picture, they do a great job of reviewing other film zines, and overall, the selection of movies and graphics is great. (S-40t)

★★★★★

TRIBAL NOTES Feb. 1990 (Donation "plus something short by or about the donator" from Clif Bennett, RR2, Hawkestone, ONT, L0L 1T0, CANADA): Clif rambles about in this personalzine, talking about whatever catches his interest, from old friends in the war resistance movement to new fanzines. This issue features a delightful Neal Wilgus news story, a review of Chomsky's latest, and a friend's notes on order, disorder, entropy and related abstruse concepts. (HL-16t)

★★★★★

TRUE TALES #5-6 (Respectively 25¢ and 75¢ from No Joke Publications, PO Box 50454, Austin, TX 78763-0454): The author is still recalling his childhood in painful detail. Actually, #5 isn't all that painful, just a selection of very early memories of a confused life. But #6 is a kick in the teeth, the story of being molested by the violin teacher after school. Brutally honest combinations of art and words. (M-12/M-40t)

★★★★★

THE TRUTH SEEKER Vol. 1 #6 ($4 from PO Box 2832, San Diego, CA 92112-2832): A freethought magazine that pulls together a great many separate threads in each issue. This one is devoted to human love, and includes material on familism, polyfidelity, and Ayn Rand's ethics, among other subjects. A lot to pick and choose from, or to attempt to synthesize. (S-56t)

★★★★★

□**TURBOT O'BRIAN** #1 ($1 (?) from PO Box 41302, Tucson, AZ 85717-1302): This zine is as mystifying as its name. It's sort of an art collection, with a few bits of text. Frank Sinatra as bigfoot and scattered reference to Mork and Mindy set a tone of cultural subversion. (HL-16)

★★★★★

TURNING THE TIDE Vol. III #2 (50¢ from Boxholder, PO Box 10488, Burbank, CA 91510): The newsletter of People Against Racist Terror, a group of anti-racist activists started to combat the local skinheads but now with an expanded agenda that includes addressing racism wherever it pops up in the system. This issue airs some movement dirty laundry, announces some gatherings of anti-racist activists, and prints a special section about prisons and prisoners. (L-8)

★★★★★

□**TWILITE ZINE** #2 ($1 from CCP, PO Box 284, Beech Grove, IN 46107): "A Nice Zine By A Nice Guy", this one seems anchored in the straightedge end of the punk scene but spends most of its time on political issues. There's some animal rights stuff, arguments against a flagburning amendment, and lots of sketchy but politically correct art. There's also an interview with The Unvoiced. (D-32)

★★★★★

TWISTED #10 ($1 from Jamie, 11698 Howitzer Ln., Woodridge, VA 22192): A skatezine that opens with a well-done cover photo, simple and amazing. Inside they have more photos, plus a good selection of zine and record reviews, keeping the link with the new music world. They're looking for contributions too. (D-20)

★★★★★

TWO-FISTED FUCK BEAST #7 (SASE from Greg Petix, 1323 N. Norton, Tucson, AZ 85719): "A minute to read, a lifetime to understand". This **TFFB** has a collage of reasonably normal people on the back, a psychotic on the front, and a cartoon of post-nuclear cockroaches within. Why? I don't know. (D-4)

★★★★★

U&lc Vol. 17 #1 ($5 from International Typeface Corporation, 2 Hammarskjold Plaza, New York, NY 10017): For desktop publishers, this is a quarterly resource of new ideas on how to design and layout pages. It's centered around the faces available from ITC, but has plenty of oddball designer art as well, and articles on things like advertising stamps or strange musical scores. Colorful and large, it may be available free to publishers. (O-68t)

★★★★★

UFO Vol. 5 #2 ($5 from 1800 S. Robertson Blvd. #355, Los Angeles, CA 90035): This is a special issue, mainly devoted to the interplay between UFOs and religion. Articles discuss everything from the evidence that a UFO parted the Red Sea for the Israelites to the connections between various prophecies and UFO events. They also print a selection of news and gossip from around the UFO investigation world. (S-48t)

★★★★★

THE UNDERGROUND #4 ($1 (?) from Scott Russell, Asbury College CPO, Wilmore, KY 40390-1198): A zine of Christianity and the world with a bit of CCM (Christian Contemporary Music) thrown in. Scott discusses issues surrounding evangelism, including some of the troubling clashes between different people serving the Lord in different ways. This is the only zine I've seen to print a negative reaction to the ACT UP demonstration at St. Patrick's as well. (HL-12r)

★★★★★

THE UNICORN Vol. XIII #3 ($10/8 issues from PO Box 8814, Minneapolis, MN 55408): A pagan zine with a continuing focus on the healing arts and on presenting short stories and artwork. This issue opens with some thoughts on the magical properties of ordinary rocks and closes with a handful of book reviews. (S-10t)

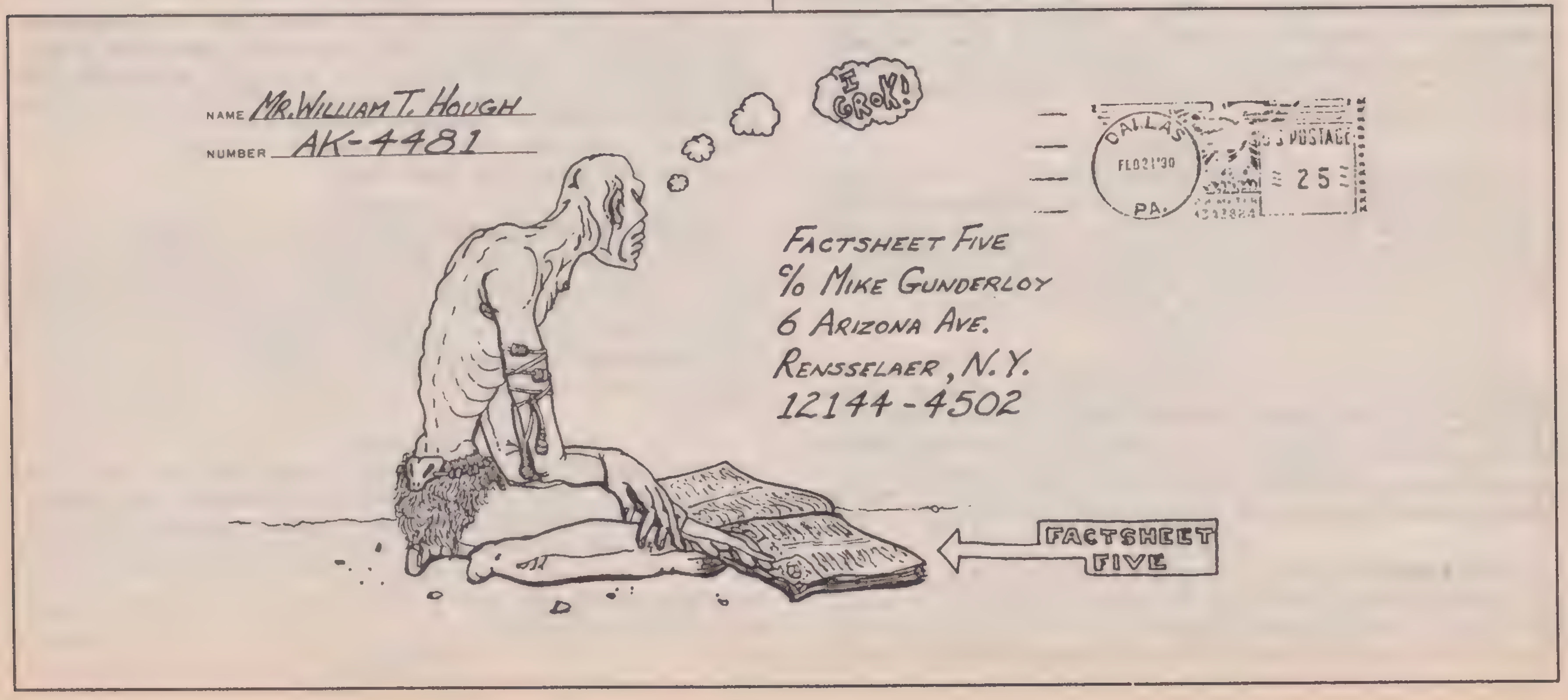
★★★★★

□**UNMUZZLED OX** #26 ($20/10 issues from 105 Hudson St., New York, NY 10013): This litzine is simultaneously **BLUES** 10, an issue guest-edited by Charles Henri Ford who put out the first 9 issues of **BLUES** 60 years ago. There are various big literary names here, including a chunk from Burroughs' approaching novel, Ginsberg, Codrescu. Lots of sex and lots of surrealism in these pages. I don't know, they're mostly not publishing them like this any more, and the references make little sense outside of their own milieu. Also available are two of Michael Andre's chapbooks, **IT AS IT** and **JABBING THE ASSHOLE IS COMEDY**, both with a choppy approach towards assembling art and poetry. (T-40t)

★★★★★

□**UNSETTLED** Vol. II #1 $1 from Donald Morrison, CIA Entertainment Productions, PO Box 562, Columbia Station, OH 44028-0562): A personalzine chronicling some of the things Donald has been up to lately. The major part concerns Star Wares, a theatrical production he got rather overinvolved with—makes for funny reading, but must have been nightmarish at the time. Also includes movie and zine reviews. D-12r)

★★★★★



UPRIGHT OSTRICH Vol. IX #2-3 ($25/yr from PO Box 11691-0691, Milwaukee, WI 53211): A rather far-out journal from a steadfast believer in the Constitution and other conservative causes. In addition to tracking the latest doings of the IRS, they're most active in keeping an eye on the prison system and the FEMA plans to intern all us dissidents. A mix of interesting legal work and hypotheses which appear unbelieveable. (S-24t)

★★★★★

USSR NEWS BRIEF #21/22 1989-#1 1990 ($40/yr from Das Land und die Welt, eV, Schwanthalerstr. 73, 8000 Munchen 2, WEST GERMANY): A relatively comprehensive chronicle of the various exciting things going on in the USSR, from anarcho-syndicalist rallies to the problems still encountered with distributing samizdat literature. They give brief news reports on many, many incidents, concentrating on human rights and trouble spots. With #1 it refocuses on human rights and individual cases, recognizing that other sources for general news of Soviet society now exist. (A5-44r)

★★★★★

☐**UZLAR** #1 ($1 (?) from Malok, PO Box 41, Waukau, WI 54980): A collection of Malok's works, prose, pictures, and stuff in-between. It includes a selection of his collages, the text to the classic "Fuck Dirge", and a diagram of the structure of the universe, among other things. (D-20)

★★★★★

VAGINA RODEO #2 ($1 from 123 Stonewall #1, Memphis, TN 38104): A zine of sex and short essays. Condoms, AIDS, the rules governing relationships between women and men, and porno movies all sneak in here. Editor Peter Mantis also adds his own unique commentary and finds space for a batch of clippings from the submainstream. (D-16r)

★★★★★

VDT NEWS Vol. VII #1-2 ($87/6 issues from PO Box 1799, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163): This professional newsletter collects and summarizes all the research surrounding the health and safety aspects of VDTs—Video Display Terminals, commonly known as computer screens. Some of the research on radiation and repetitive stress injuries is rather frightening, especially to those of us who spend full days at the keyboard. Worth getting your local library to carry. (S-12t) **VEGETARIAN JOURNAL** Vol. IX #1 ($20/yr from The Vegetarian Resource Group, PO Box 1463, Baltimore, MD 21203): A vegetarian magazine which is not flashy but contains a lot of information. This issue has a pretty complete rundown on vegetarian diets for diabetes and an examination of the link between business, ethics and the environment. They also feature recipes and book reviews, and have a bookstore section of their own. (S-32t)

★★★★★

☐**VENTURIST MONTHLY NEWS** Vol. 2 #2-3 ($8/12 issues from The Venturists, PO Box 458, Wrightwood, CA 92397): The Venturists are a group promoting "manmade eternal life", chiefly (for the moment at least) through cryonics and nanotechnology. They offer support rather than suspension services, including the possibilities of coordinated legal action and storage of personal effects for those in suspension. #3 has some scientific opinions on cryonics plus debate on just what it is that encompasses identity. (S-4t)

★★★★★

A VERY SMALL MAGAZINE #12 ($1 from Beth Blevins, 1000 Sixth St. SW, Washington, DC 20024): This is the "Neighborhoods" issue of this minizine. Beth asked a bunch of friends to write about where they live and why. Responses came in from Xenia, Chico, Portland, New York City, and more. A fun read. (M-16t)

★★★★★

VETERANS FOR PEACE JOURNAL #12 ($2 from PO Box 3881, Portland, ME 04104): These folks, having served in the armed forces, are now joining the campaign to abolish war. They're active in helping the repressed in Central America, keeping cruise missiles out of Maine (or trying to) and publicizing the downside of military life. They also report in this issue on Ollie North's current antics, fundraising for some rightwing foundation. (S-24t)

★★★★★

☐**VIDEOMANIA** #59-60 ($11.97/yr from PO Box 47, Princeton, WI 54968): A mix of video industry news, movie reviews, feature articles and lots of ads. Unlike most of the film zines in FF, this one does not concentrate solely on genre films. #59 has a chunk on Japanimation; #60 looks back at the best and worst in 1989. (T-24)

★★★★★

☐**VIDEOSONIC ARTS** #1 ($5.95 from 11225 Magnolia Blvd. #200, North Hollywood, CA 91601): According to the editor this is a "magabookalogue"—but i9t fits here as well as anywhere else. This fat film zine is devoted solely to appreciating the life and work of Bela Lugosi in words and pictures. There's a film checklist, appreciations in print, a guide to places the star lived and even some of this own writing. Throw in pictures—lots of them—and you have a fine production for the vampire addict. (S-98t)

★★★★★

VIDIOT #3 ($1 from Flint Mitchell, 7331 Terri Robyn Dr., St. Louis, MO 63129-5233): A short zine of film reviews and associated stuff. Flint leads off with an editorial about what dopes you can find leaving messages on BBS systems, and then gets into zine, film and book reviews. He tends to peer at the more obscure corners of the media, and has some great indie video reviews in this issue. (D-20r)

★★★★★

VIRGINIA LIBERTY Vol. 6 #1 ($15/yr from LPVA, PO box 28263, Richmond, VA 23228): The newsletter of the state Libertarian Party in Virginia. They've got a roundup of national news, notes on appearances in the local media, and party organizing stuff. Slim but consistent. (T-4t)

★★★★★

VOICE FOR THE VOICELESS #5 ($1 (?) from 1103 W. Gift, Peoria, IL 61604): A zine of animal rights, social justice, ecological concerns, pro-choice and free-speech writings—with poetry and drawings through in. It has a very informal but committed feel. Of interest in this issue is a reprinted article on a school paper being banned because it *mentioned* a zine, and an essay on vegetarianism. (S-8)

★★★★★

VOICES FROM SPIRIT Vol. 3 #8 ($4 from Gerald Polley, PO Box 5155, Ellsworth, ME 04605): A journal for people who talk to dead people, or are at least interested in the subject. In this issue they interview Merlin, certainly a journalistic coup. Small New Age articles also appear here. (S-6r)

★★★★★

THE VOLUNTARYIST #43 ($3 from PO Box 1275, Gramling, SC 29348): Essays and speculation in support of a morally upright approach to the world: "If one takes care of the means, the end will take care of itself". They['re libertarian in basic outlook. This issue includes da delightful potpourri of quotes from Charles Curley and James Martin on what he *doesn't* believe. (S-8t)

★★★★★

WAGE SLAVE WORLD NEWS Vol. 2 #1-2 ($12/12 issues from PO Box 3511, Madison, WI 53704): A satirical publication in tabloid style from some feisty unionists. #1 has their predictions for the 90's, with such gems as "In 1995 Donald Trump's money will attack and devour his wife!" (S-4)

★★★★★

W.A.M.M. Vol. 8 #6-Vol. 9 #3 ($30/yr from 3255 Hennepin Ave. S, Minneapolis, MN 55408): The newsletter of Women Against Military Madness, this one is a good place to keep posted on peace activities in and around Minneapolis. #1 opens with an article exploring anti-US sentiment in the Philippines, and also goes into the El Salvador coffee boycott a bit. (S-8t)

★★★★★

THE WASHINGTON REPORT ON MIDDLE EAST AFFAIRS Vol. VIII #10-11 ($2 from AET, PO Box 53062, Washington, DC 20009): News from various parts of the middle east which tends to focus on the turmoil there. They give a very sympathetic hearing to the Palestinians and often come off as anti-Israeli, but that's not so very unusual these days. #10 has a fascinating though sketchy portrait of Abu Nidal. #11 reports on a Rand study which says that a Palestinian state is inevitable. (S-58t)

★★★★★

WE THE PEOPLE #43 ($3 from Michael Wolff, PO Box 704, South Houston, TX 77587-0704): An apa for political and social discussion, fueled by a couple of rather long-winded members. The discussion are interesting and rang all over the political map, both in content and in viewpoint, though mostly they are closer to the center than most zine politics. I see in Jim Downard's alternate world serialization that I've been captured by the Shogun, too. Oh well, I never did like serving in Congress. (S-76)

★★★★★

THE WEIRD NEWS #4 (SASE from Donald F. Busky, 7393 Rugby St., Philadelphia, PA 19138-1236): Humorous invented news stories with a socialist twist to some of them—as one might guess from the "Labor Donated and Inebriated" tag line. South African crocs against apartheid, the new swinging Soviet scene, and junk bonds all get chuckled at here. (S-3)

★★★★★

☐**WHY.** #1 ($18/yr from World Hunger Year, 261 W. 35th St. #1402, New York, NY 10001): The new magazine of World Hunger Year, a group which wants to end hunger. Sounds simple, but there's a lot of young lives being ground up in global geopolitics. This issue focuses on hunger and children, and is depressing even though they make suggestions abut alleviating the problems. (S-44t)

★★★★★

WHOLE EARTH REVIEW #66 ($20/4 issues from 27 Gate Five Rd., Sausalito, CA 94965): Another fine issue of **WER** is out, full of the usual assortment of hopes for our future. This time the focus is on environmental restoration, taking ecosystems we have hurt or destroyed and trying to heal them. It's a growing field (no pun intended), and they cite plenty of sources for learning more. (S-160t)

★★★★★

☐**WINNING WAYS NEWS** Vol. 3 #6 ($22.50/8 issues from Winning Ways Press, PO Box 35412, Minneapolis, MN 55435): Editor Barbara J. Winter has defined her audience here as people who are "living without a job"—not silver spoon babies, but self-employed folks and small businesscritters involved in multiple activities to enjoy life and bring in some cash. She offers short articles from lots of entrepreneurs and the like, advice on marketing, time management hints, and networking contacts. I can pick out at least one piece I'm glad I read in very issue. (S-8r)

★★★★★

☐**WOMEN AND REVOLUTION** #36 ($1 from Spartacist Publishing Co., PO Box 1377, GPO, New York, NY 10116): From the "Spartacist League Central Committee Commission for Work Among Women" comes this hardcore Communist journal. They in fact take a harder line than the current Soviet government, denouncing the Afghan pullout as a betrayal. Moist of their pages, though, are spent analyzing feminist and gay struggles from a class warfare perspective. (S-32t)

★★★★★

THE WOMEN'S ALTERNATIVE TIMES Vol. 1 #2-3 (50¢ from PO Box 42945, Austin, TX 78765): A feisty but fun feminist zine. #2 has a lot of stuff on section 21.06 of thje Texas Penal Code, which makes homosexual conduct illegal, and on the actions of one particularly prejudiced judge. They also look at food irradiation, boycotts, safe sex, and more. #3 has arguments on abortion rights and a longish article on lesbians and AIDS. (HL-20t)

★★★★★

☐**WONDER** #3 ($12/4 issues from 2221 Cavanaugh Ave., Atlanta, GA 30316): A magazine for those who retain the "sense of wonder" and want to cultivate it, with a gentle Christian bent. Classic SF drive-in movies lead off this issue, followed by an original story Rod Bennett in the best pulp tradition. They also feature fiction and writing about writing by George MacDonald. Well-done and obviously containing a lot of work by the staff. (S-48t)

★★★★★

THE WONDERFUL WORLD NEWS Vol. 6 #3 ($10/yr from Ringer, 2525 Arapahoe Ave. #E4173, Boulder, CO 80302): A newsletter of happy chitchat. This time they talk about music, from the bafflement of reading it to childhood memories of a radio to the joy of singing. (S-4t)

★★★★★

THE WONDERLAND TIMES Vol. II #2-3 ($1 from R.J. McLin, PO Box 20794, Baton Rouge, LA 70894): A college-based newsletter of radical ideas and literary enjoyment. #2, as with many other issues, contains strong statements on drug legalization—but they also have the guts to print a letter from a Colombian student telling them they're wrong. #3 has notes on private groups working to save the wilderness by buying it and a report on the latest David Duke antics. (S-16t)

★★★★★

☐**THE WORKSTEADER NEWS** ($4 from 242 E. Main #38, Ashland, OR 97520): This is a newsletter for folks who work at home. They're very good at spotting new business opportunities—and, even more importantly, warning people which ones are scams. They also provide some basic "how-to" information as well as contacts for more information. (S-12t)

★★★★★

WORLD ENCOUNTER #1 ($5/4 issues from 426 S. Fifth St. #1209, Minneapolis, MN 55440): A new magazine from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, encouraging worldwide missionary work. The premiere issue profiles a resurgent Lutheran church in the east—the USSR, Hungary, Estonia and East Germany are all covered. (S-32t)

★★★★★

☐**WORLD PERSPECTIVES** Vol. 1 #2-3 ($17.50/yr from People's News Service, PO Box 3074, Madison, WI 53704): A new journal of international political and social news collected by monitoring shortwave broadcasts from around the world. Sources range from the BBC and Voice of America to Radio Prague Czechoslovakia and Agencia Neuve Nicaragua. They concentrate on presenting stories and viewpoints not covered in the mainstream press. (HL-24t)

★★★★★

WORLD RAINFOREST REPORT Vol. VI #1 ($1 from Rainforest Action Network, 301 Broadway #A, San Francisco, CA 94133): Activist-oriented news for those worried about the demise of the earth's rainforests. They suggest many steps to take, from the boycotting of tropical hardwoods to specific companies to boycott and harass. Hard-core members get into things like blockading World Bank meetings. There's also plenty of short bits of interesting rainforest news in each issue. (S-12t)

★★★★★

WORLDS OF SURREALISM #2 ($3 from M. Shane Reynolds, 4262 El Carnal Way, Las Vegas, NV 89121): A magazine of surreal fiction and poetry, with much more (and much more disturbing) artwork than most other litmags. There are some interesting pieces here, including Brian Skinner's "Animal Bipes Implume" and the artwork of Ken Seward and D. Damon Dancer. Lots of strange dreams lurk in these pages. (S-38)

★★★★★

☐**WORLD WATCHERS INTERNATIONAL** Vol. 1 #1 ($25/yr from Mae Brussell Research Center, PO Box 8431, Santa Cruz, CA 95061): Even though Mae Brussell is dead, her approach to the world—seeing everything in politics as a network of interlocking conspiracies—lives on. There is serious work here, but that's also the same Brussellian tendency to accept coincidence as proof. On the other hand, maybe we need some of that tendency these days. Contains transcripts of Mae's own shows plus new articles. (S-20t)

★★★★★

THE WRENCHING DEBATE GAZETTE #9 ($1 (?) from 14 Lincoln Ave. #3, Somerville, MA 02145): A grassroots look at what little is being done to help the environment. This issue analyzes the Bush Administration air pollution strategy, the various bills in Congress, and the actions of the national environmental groups, and finds them all wanting. A few suggestions are also offered on how things could be moved along more expeditiously. (S-12)

★★★★★

WRESTLING OBSERVER NEWSLETTER 1/22/90-3/19/90 ($5/4 issues from PO Box 1228, Campbell, CA 95009-1228): Dave Meltzer's tightly-paced weekly information sheet on pro wrestling. Meltzer is real good at covering the business end of things, and there's plenty of insider news in every issue. The February 5 issue has some notes on events in Japan, where wrestling brings in a huge amount of money. 2/12 looks at the rumors of Hulk Hogan's possibly impending retirement. 3/19 has the latest on the dangers of steroid use in the field. (S-8r)

★★★★★

☐**WRESTLING PERSPECTIVE** #1 ($1 from Paul J. MacArthur & Dave Skolnick, PO Box 401, Camillus, NY 13031-0401): A new entry on the wrestling bulletin scene which seems to be taking a more essay-oriented stand than most of the others. They open this first issue with a discussion of whether "juicing" (deliberate bloodying with a concealed blade) is necessary in the sport. Later on they lament steroid use to make wrestlers bulkier. Looks like a winner. (S-8)

★★★★★

☐**WRESTLING STYLE** Vol. 1 #38-41 ($3/month from PO Box 711, Lanham, MD 207093-0711): Co-edited by Jim Dough and Joe DiCarlo, this one comes out weekly in a fancy format that is seriously detracted from by the dot-matrix print. However, there are sparks of greatness within the writing, and their flashy format could be a success if better reproduced. Of interest is the sorting of news by promotion, with logos, and their weekly awards, as well as the regular gossip coverage. (S-6)

★★★★★

☐**WRESTLING THEN & NOW** #1-2 ($1.25 from Evan Ginzburg, PO Box 471, Oakland Gardens Sta., Flushing, NY 11364): A new entry on the wrestling bulletin scene from someone who has been writing for the bulletins for a decade. Evan has a few distinctive features, one being profiles of readers and writers, the other being a "Time Machine" column that looks back to some matches in the past. There's also the usual gossip and card reports. (S-8)

★★★★★

WRITERS' MAGAZINES

SCAVENGER'S NEWSLETTER #72-73 ($1.50 from Janet Fox, 519 Ellinwood, Osage City, KS 66523-1329): A market newsletter for the writer of horror, SF, fantasy and related fiction who is trying to hit the small press and make a few sales. Janet tracks a large number of periodicals and anthologies, and provides a forum for both writers and editors to air their feelings about the

★★★★★

XENO-FILE Vol. 1 #4 ($4/4 issues from Con-Version, PO Box 1088, Sta. M. Calgary, Alberta, T2P 29, CANADA): Instead of emanating from a lone fan or even a club, this SF zine is sponsored by an entire convention. But it's not centered on the con; although there are articles on things like past GOH L. Sprague de Camp, there's also stuff on books and a delightful amount of humor, including a fine essay on Canada's role in space exploration. (S-10)

★★★★★

☐**XTRA!** #139 ($34.95/yr from Box 7289, Sta. A, Toronto, ONT, M5W 1X9, CANADA): This issue of the "Gay Guide to Toronto" opens the 90's, and as such it contains a lot of year in review stuff. They seem to be especially interested in building a sense of community, with lots of photos of people and a rather longish letter section in this issue (featuring excerpts from the strangest of their recent mail). (T-40t)

★★★★★

YAWN #7-10 ($10 *CASH/Stamps* for 1 year from PO Box 162, Oakdale, IA 52319): "A sporadic communique" centered on the Art Strike and its ramifications. They print texts from various art strikers as well as critical appraisals and responses. Probably the most consistent source of Art Strike news so far. #8 has a selection of letters and responses which make the aims of at least some Art Strikers much clearer. (S-2t)

★★★★★

YEAH—WHATEVER #4 ($1 (?) from PO Box 4391, Metuchen, NJ 08840): A small zine which is somewhere in the literary orbit, although it strays quite a bit. Coming out around Valetine's Day, much of this issue concerns love, or at least relationships. They also review diners and women in prison movies, publish photographs of staircases, and say nasty things about mimes. (HL-16t)

★★★★★

YELLOW SILK #32 ($6 from PO Box 6374, Albany, CA 94706): A literary magazine devoted to eroticism in prose, poem and the visual arts. The writers here are very rarely graphic—this is eroticism, not pronography, and there is a difference—but steamy nonetheless. Carolyn Banks's story "The Country Gentleman" was the highlight of #32 for me, an examination of an intense relationship that jumps around the way real people live instead of following a tight story line. (S-50t)

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★★★★★

YHOS #49 (The Usual from Art Widner, 231 Courtney Ln., Orinda, CA 94563): Art is something of a rarity in SF fanzine circles: not only does he communicate with both classic fans and upstart neofans, he's willing to look outside the SFan universe for other small publications. This time around YHOS includes notes on surviving the earthquake, some horror movie reviewing by Terry Floyd, and Ray nelson's despairing look at postmodernism. (HL-32r)

★★★★★

YIPPIE HIPPIE Oct.-Nov, 1989 (SASE from Doc, PO Box 1586, Norristown, PA 19404): A collection of articles and rants from people who find themselves in opposition to the current system—whether it be over drugs, the ecology, flagburning or whatever. They are into distributing copies and urging others to write them as well. (S-2t)

★★★★★

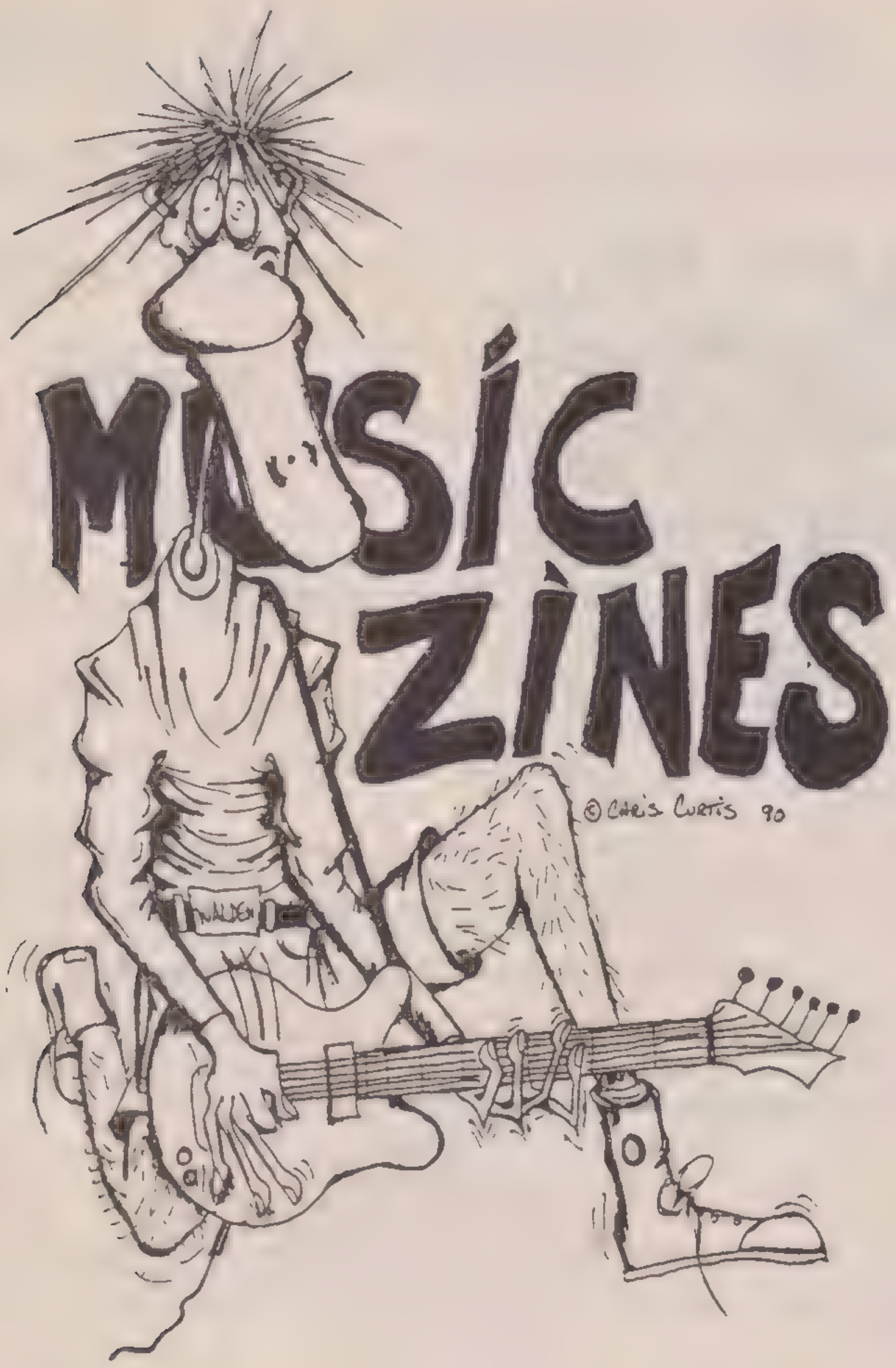
ZENDIK FARM March 1990 ($2 *CASH/MO* from Cary Roberts c/o Zendik Farm, 1431 Tierra Del Sol Rd., Boulevard, CA 92005): The Zendiks are a commune of ecological revolutionaries, trying to find a way to evade the "deathkultur" they see surrounding them. They're into new music, healing, rescuing people from drugs and death, and protecting the earth. Lots here, from interviews with folks who live at Zendik to comics, reviews, and excerpts from their books. (S-72r)

★★★★★

ZENGER Mid-January 1990 ($10/12 issues from PO Box 3323, Madison, WI 53704): "The Nation's Underground Paper" keeps a feisty spirit alive, with stories on everything from Central America to how to beat a drug rap. They are getting real good at covering the underbelly of the War on Drugs, and are a refreshing alternative voice. The spirit of rebellion lives on. (T-20t)

★★★★★

☐**ZENO-FILES** #1 (Donation from Oren C. Webster, PO Box 40311, Nashville, TN 37204-0311): A new zine of Eleatic thought—the name Zeno may ring a bell with you, and if so, it's the right bell. Most of this issue is devoted to looking at Schrodinger's Cat and condemning the quantum physicists for not having a full understanding of the situation and answers to nasty questions about observers. (S-3)



☐1/1 ($15/yr from Just Intonation Network, 535 Stevenson St., San Francisco, CA 94103): The Just Intonation Network is a group of musicians interested in Just Intonation, "a method for organizing and understanding the pitch continuum". My musicianship is so rudimentary I don't know what the heck they're talking about, but they seem to have a goodly batch of interesting folks working with and writing for them. (S-16t)

★★★★★

35TH PARALLEL #2 ($1 from David Rhoden, 1634 Laurel #1, Knoxville, TN 37916): Well, mostly music here, along with some comics and a review of a funny companion to dry as dust English literature classics. Mostly this is David going on about favorite records and groups, Giant Sand, Sebadoh, State of the Union, and more. A personal view of the music scene. (S-12)

★★★★★

ABSOLUTELY ZIPPO #12 (25¢ & 3 stamps from 1550 Mann, Pinole, CA 94564): A music zine which gives a real good picture of the East Bay scene...or at least, a real entertaining one, since I don't know whether it's quite so fun-loving and bizarre as it seems from these pages. Lawrence Livermore writes about gangs in his old home town, Todd bitches about sexual harassment, Claude discusses life in the loony bin. Well, maybe it's not so fun after all. Anyway, there's some bands and scene reports and skate comics too, and I like this zine. (S-32)

★★★★★

THE AFFILIATE Feb. 1990 ($2.50 from 4322 Cleroux, Chomedey, Laval, Montreal, QUE, H7T 2E3, CANADA): A music zine aimed at those who feel left out of the normal channels of promotion but who still want to communicate. Editor Peter Riden makes space for others to chat and publicize their projects, and presents an extensive contact list of zines and other folks. Much of the February issue is devoted to announcing the annual music festival the zine sponsors. (S-036t)

★★★★★

☐**AHC** #1 (175 Pts. from PO Box 5155, 50080 Zaragoza, SPAIN): A Spanish-language hardcore zine with lots of pictures. They're mainly interviews, with a mix of big names from the US (Soulside, Youth of Today) and others that I presume are European (2 Bad, Dark Age). Pretty big and well done for a first issue. (A4-36r)

★★★★★

ALTERNATIVE #3 ($4 from Resistance Prod., Postfach 426, 8026 Zurich, SWITZERLAND): A really great English-language zine from the Swiss scene. They talk to Disorder, Concrete Sox and other bands, do tons of interviews, have neat punk graphics and more. I liked their handy guide to scene graffiti symbols and their occasional slams at the system. Snazzy paper and colored printing too. (A5-80r)

★★★★★

ALTERNATIVE PRESS #25/26 ($24.95/yr from 1451 W. 112th #1, Cleveland, OH 44102): A double issue of this oversized zine of alternative music, packing over 100 pages of stories between slick color covers. Henry Rollins, the Buttholes, Screaming Blue Messiahs, Giant Sand, Alien Sex Fiend, Soundgarden...artists from all the major indies are here. (O-104t)

★★★★★

ANCIENT GRANDMA SECRETS #4 ($1 from Libby Gilbert, PO Box 42691, Tucson, AZ 85733-2691): Mostly music, though there are a few "folding stories" (text written in blind round-robin fashion) and art as well. The bulk is reviews, starting with a live Russ Tolman review and then covering a batch of new records. (S-14)

★★★★★

☐**"...and I feel like an alarm clock"** #1 (2 stamps from Allen Salyer, PO Box 1551, Royal Oak, MI 48068): A new fanzine for fans of Throwing Muses. I like the group, so I'm glad to see the zine, even if there's noit a whole lot in the first issue. Allen's near-complete discography gives me a few more things to hunt for, and there are also photos and a story of meeting Kristin and Tanya. (D-8r)

★★★★★

☐**ANOTHER FUCKIN' ZINE** #1 ($1 (?) from Noad, 2802 E. Madison St. #151, Seattle, WA 98112): A new music zine with a fairly strong socially conscious component as well—they go after GE and the corporate contributors to world hunger in this issue. On the music side, there are chats with Christ on a Crutch, Subvert and Asprin Feast. Record, tape and zine reviews round out the package. (S-22)

★★★★★

☐**ANOTHER PAIR OF SHOES** #1 ($1 from 2121 Hennepin Ave. #203, Minneapolis, MN 55405): A zine of the scene, with music being put in the back. Before that you get a lot of social justice issues—animal rights, censorship, and so on, plus a travelogue. There's reviews and a talk with members from Braindead.(D-20)

★★★★★

☐**THE ATHENS RECORD** Vol. 1 #2-3 ($1.50 from Gary S. Nabors, 330 Clover St., Athens, GA 30606): A music zine aimed at R.E.M. fans and collectors. They print some notes on hard-to-find items, reprint some show flyers, and feature occasional material on other bands. Pylon gets some space in their second issue, for example. (S-12t)

★★★★★

AUTOPSY ($1 from Chris Doolan, 89 Pangeza Street, Stafford Heights, Brisbane, QLD, 4053, AUSTRALIA): Metal and hardcore music plus some added goodies, like a few movie reviews and a page of gory comics. The People's Drug and Decadence Within get interviewed in this issue, which also includes zine and record reviews. The price is postpaid to the US, by the way, and US cash is fine. (D-12r)

★★★★★

☐**AWARE** #4 ($1.50 from Tom, 120 Kings Row Pl., Dumfries, VA 22026): A music zine with a positive punk feel, thanks to lots of articles on things like vegetarianism and homelessness. They also talk to a couple of bands (Soulside, Holy Rollers) and take a look at the scene in Reston. Nice package with sort of a hippie look to it. (S-36)

★★★★★

AWARE OF MY TONGUE #3 ($1.50 from PO Box 206202, Louisville, KY 40220): This zine puts the music reviews, lots of them, front and center; it feels like the other parts are the intrusions. Mainly this is the interviews with Slint and Steve Albini, which are at least welcome intrusions. They review all manner of indie music, tagging a few dogs, praising a few winners, and fairly evaluating the rest. Engaging raw feel. (S-49)

★★★★★

BACKLASH Feb.-Mar. 1990 ($1 from 4128 Fremont Ave. N., Seattle, WA 98103): All the music that you need to worry about from Seattle, one of the hotbeds of new music activity on this continent. Sanctuary is the headliner group in the February issue, but the one I enjoyed reading about was Stagnant Water, with their bassist Blind Lemon Pledge. March has Grapes of Wrath and some other Canadian coverage, plus a chat with Bill Bored from Bombshelter Video. (T-12t)

★★★★★

□**BACTERIA OF DECAY** #1 ($1 from 63 Lennox Ave., Buffalo, NY 14226): A new music zine that's mostly interviews in the first issue, including Life Sentence and Enema Milkshake. One interesting new idea is that they offer to redistribute tapes; they'll make copies of tapes and inserts (with the band's permission) for $3 and send 'em off, so they could be sort of a one-stop demo shopping store. (S-20)

★★★★★

BAD NEWZ #13 ($3 from Bob Z. c/o Sarris Bookmarketing, 125 E. 23rd St. #300, New York, NY 10010): Firmly anchored in the punk music scene, this one branches out to confront a lot of free speech issues as well, from postering to fanzines to sexism. There are Dickies and Effigies interviews in this issue, bondage photos and discussion of whether they're sexist, and a ton of reviews and "punkture". (S-66r)

★★★★★

BANZAI #43-44 ($1 from PO Box 6555, Kansas City, KS 66106): Midwest metal coverage that ranges from hometown boys to reviews of major label records. Besides the music, they have comics, a wrestling column, and an instructional page for budding guitarists. #43 includes Dreemwich and Vain. #44 has Anacrusis and a short statement from a female rocker who is sick to death of being compared to Pat Benetar just because they both happen to be women. (T-16t)

★★★★★

BASEMENTS AND BACKSTAGE Jan. 1990 ($1 (?) from 58 Pleasant St., Mendon, MA 01756: A music zine directed at the musicians' community in the Boston/Worcester/providence area. This issue explains something about MIDI sequencers, and looks at the bands Billy Dare, Backstroke to Cuba, and Boo Radley. There's also a whole chunk devoted just to music producers. (S-20t)

★★★★★

□**BASS MAGAZINE** 1989-90 Yearbook ($4.95 from 33 Essex St., Hackensack, NJ 07601): A fat perfect-bound magazine for bass players, which runs all the way from classical versions of the instrument to modern metal bands. They have how-to articles, interviews with famous bassists, big plans for the Bass Players' hall of Fame, and notes on buying a bass. John Entwistle and John Patitucci are among those interviewed in this issue. Lots of information, but one of the worst examples of desktop publishing overkill I've ever seen as far as design goes. (S-128t)

★★★★★

BLONDIE FANZINE Vol. 2 #7 ($1 from Robert S. Robbins, 1997 Misner Rd., Williamsport, PA 17701): A fanzine devoted to Debbie Harry of Blondie fame. Robbins prints reviews of recent concerts, occasional bits of trivia and inside information, and computerized artworks, mainly digitized photos of Debbie. (S-6)

★★★★★

BLUES

□**BAY BLUES** Feb. 1990 ($2.50 from PO Box 986, Forestville, CA 95436): A blues magazine with a refreshing sense of exploration about it—Editor R. Mansfield is still trying to figure out what this stuff is all about, and sharing it with the readers. This issue focuses on female guitar players, including Christine Lakeland, Nancy Wenstrom, Debbie Davies and Nancy Dalessandro. There's also a chat with Charlie Musselwhite and some discussion of racism in blues bookings. (S-40)

★★★★★

BLUE SUEDE NEWS Vol. 3 #2 ($5/4 issues from PO Box 25, Duvall, WA 98019): A music zine that focuses in on roots rock—and on the groups still playing in the roots tradition today. So they swing back and forth from Jerry Lee lewis to Little Charlie and the Nightcats, with a healthy dose of live and festival reporting thrown in as well. Some Northwest orientation, but mostly just timeless music. (S-16t)

★★★★★

BMI MUSICWORLD Winter 1990 ($5 (?) from 320 W. 57th St, New York, NY 10019): BMI is one of those organizations that protects the rights of songwriters. This is their somewhat flashy magazine, replete with industry pix and chats with important people. The Eurythmics and Paul Simon are profiled in this issue, which celebrates 50 years of BMI's existence. (S-64t)

★★★★★

BOSTON ROCK #99-100 ($1.50 from PO Box 371, New Town Branch, Boston, MA 02258): All manner of rock and punk news from Boston, with lots of news bits. #99 seems an especially strange issue, as it reports on both GG Allin's arrest and the Lemonheads' appearance on a K-Tel collection. There's also Psychedelic Furs, Pop Will Eat Itself, and Poi Dog Pondering. (T-16t)

★★★★★

B-SIDE Feb./Mar. 1990 ($13/6 issues from PO Box 1860, Burlington, NJ 08016): A medium-large format zine with lots of stories plus a few reviews, and corners on world and industrial music. Debbie Harry, the Fuzztones, The Sugarcubes, Billy Bragg and The Hoodoo Gurus are all part of this issue. A pleasant alternative to those big-name mags the same size. (O-50t)

★★★★★

□**BULLPRESS** #1 ($2 from Darryl Unger, 249-2 Edwards St., Binghamton, NY 13901): A zine of hardcore music and collage, with lots of photos and captions that don't always make sense to those outside the scene. Nuclear Assault and Fugazi are the big names in this issue, which I guess makes Milk Toast the little name. (S-20)

★★★★★

□**THE BURNING BUSH** #12 ($1 from Jason Bauman, Rte. 1 Hwy 23, Mineral Point, WI 53565): A basic Christian music zine, with reviews and interviews, and (tucked away in the back) religious editorials. They've got a pretty good listing of other Christian music zines, notes on recent shows, and an interview with Tempest in this issue. (B-20r)

★★★★★

BUSHWHACKER #3 ($1 from Jay & Missy, PO Box 23, S. Gardiner, ME 04359): A socially-conscious music zine that mixes the music and the scene together well. On the one hand we have interviews with Dave Smalley and the publisher of **DISARRAY** zine; on the other, there's a couple of pages on veganism and the egg industry as well as stuff on fur and Nazis (two different articles, I hasten to add!). A packed review section rounds out the zine. (D-24r)

★★★★★

BUZZ #51 ($4/4 issues from PO Box 3111, Albany, NY 12203): Music coverage with an ear towards Albany's club and radio scene. This issue has a great interview with Die Warzau and a shorter one with Eleventh Dream Day, two bands I happen to enjoy quite a bit, so it's a good one in my eyes. Passion Fodder and Psychedelic Furs are also featured. (S-28r)

★★★★★

□**THE CALL MAGAZINE** Vol. 5 #2-3 ($12/12 issues from 6433 E. Washington St. #137, Indianapolis, IN 46219): A giveaway music tabloid focusing on the Indianapolis area. They do get outside of the hometown; #2 includes a piece on Ministry and on on TV's new comedy channel. Mimi Mapes and Henry Lee Summer feature in #3, along with Paul McCartney and a series on local music managers. (T-24t)

★★★★★

CATHARSIS MONTHLY #7-8 ($2 from PO Box 3181, Suffolk, VA 23434): Music plus a few other odds and ends, The best story in #7 covers the seizure of Jeff Clites' personal tape collection, which the Feds had the gall to value at 43 million bucks. They chat with House of Freaks and look at some of the best music of '89 as well. #8 runs from Jesus and Mary Chain to Paul McCartney. (T-16t)

★★★★★

CD REVIEW DIGEST: JAZZ, POPULAR ETC. Vol. 3 #4 ($10/yr from The Peri Press, PO Box 348, Voorheesville, NY 12186-0348): A collection of excerpts from reviews of current CDs, taken from a couple of dozen magazines, and arranged so as to make it easy to compare them. The whole is meticulously cross-indexed, and while it is somewhat light on harder forms of music, it is getting better in that department. A good reference tool. Also available now is the 1989 Annual cumulated volume, 325 pages long and costing $22. (S-108t)

★★★★★

☐**CHAINSAW** #2 ($1 (?) from Make Toast Not War, 2236 Market #128, San Francisco, CA 94114): A melange of punk, homocore, music, Amy Carter, and more. Bruse La Bruce gives the lowdown on his SF vacation, Gloria writes of Fifth Column on tour, there's stuff on culture and music in New Zealand, and a page (almost) on K Records. Rapid cuts from item to item lend a sense of vertigo to the whole. (HL-16r)

★★★★★

CHAIRS MISSING "Reuters" issue (50¢ from PO Box 375, Fairfield, CT 06430): This one has scaled down from a huge zine to a collection of Scott's reviews—no interviews, no photos, just the words. It's still a fun read, and he does the best FF review I remember reading lately. Mostly about music rather than fanzines. (S-4)

★★★★★

☐**CLOSE DOESN'T COUNT** #1 (75¢ from 808 Village Green Dr., Gilbertsville, PA 19525): A mix of music, activism, and general silliness. Most of the music is in record reviews, the Serial Killers to Gwar. They have a page on animal testing, a crossword, and a revolting recipe for "Evil Tea". (S-10r)

★★★★★

☐**CLOT** Vol. 1 #1-2 ($24/12 issues from PO Box 33330, Northglenn, CO 80233): A music magazine which hopes to pump up the Denver scene and cover some bands from elsewhere as well. The premiere issue includes GBH, Junk Monkeys, Asbestosaurus, Helstar and more. They also have plenty of photos and this gruesome-looking cartoon mascot named Frxd to keep you perplexed. (T-16t)

★★★★★

COMBAT STANCE #4 ($2 from Tom O'Hara, 1718 Florida St., Westfield, NJ 07090: A hardcore zine that slags off just about everyone: positive punks, squatters, vegetarians, and animal rights activists, for starters. There's an interview with Roger Miret (in jail) and a porno pictorial to close the whole thing off. (S-26)

★★★★★

CONCERTINA & SQUEEZEBOX #22 ($3.50 from PO Box 2343, Bellingham, WA 98227): A dedicated and specialized musical journal, for folks who are into "free-reed" instruments—the accordion being perhaps the best known but not the focus here. They review recorded music that uses such things, investigate the instruments (both new and classic) themselves, and generally seem to be at the center of a lively bunch of people. Musician Dave Townsend gets interviewed in this issue. (HL-52t)

★★★★★

CUT #7-8 ($2.50 for #7 or 50¢ for #8 from 11 Julian St., Norwich, CT 06360): Editor Steve Erickson puts out a good solid music zine, and he's not afraid to be opinionated; he lists his top 100 records of the 80's in this issue, for example. He also chats with Roger Miller, the Verlaines and the Mekons, and reviews a whole bunch of records. I find that I trust his music reviews to be sensible, which is more than I can say about some other zines. #8 is mostly reviews, plus a talk with The Bastards. (S-34r)

★★★★★

THE CUTTING EDGE #72 ($1 from Dan Kennedy, 8303 Hilton Way, Orlando, FL 32810): A long-running and good-looking zine of Christian Contemporary Music. There's little or no fluff here, just a packed layout with things like an interview with Burrito from The Warning, album reviews, and festival notes. (S-12t)

★★★★★

DAMP #5 ($3 from Kevin Kraynick, PO Box 3034, Providence, RI 02906): This one was worth the wait, since about half of it is devoted to Don Van Vliet, perhaps better known as Captain Beefheart. It opens with a gorgeous (and unintentionally 3-D, if you have the glasses) Joey Zone cover, then goes into an interview, song picks from a poll of Beefheart fans, Zoot Horn Rollo, and more. They don't ignore the current indies either, putting a pile of reviews together with interviews with The Cattle and the Hellcows. (S-72t)

★★★★★

DEADBEAT #2 (35p. from 3 Freeland Place, Bristol BS8 4NP, UK): A music zine that for some reason seems to be mainly interviews with bands from the US, with a lot of discussion of the social context of the music. Cringer, Dissent, and Visions of Change feature prominently in this issue. Good sense of design here too. (HL-28)

★★★★★

☐**DEAD JESUIT GAZETTE** #1 (50¢ from Darryl Unger, 249-2 Edwards St., Binghamton, NY 13901): The Dead Jesuits are a band, and this is their promo sheet, with little stories, notes about their music, ten best lists, music and movie reviews, and whatever else they can collage in. (S-2)

★★★★★

☐**DETHRONER** #11 ($3 (?) from Pawel Wasilewski, Poste Restante, 50-900 Wroclaw 2, POLAND): A music zine with a hardcore outlook that is almost entirely interviews with European bands. Bulldozer, Scarecrow, Vader, Samael, and Slashing Death are a few of the faces here. Some records get a listen as well. (A5-68r)

★★★★★

☐**DIFFERENT BEAT** #1 ($1 (?) from 707 E. 54th, Indianapolis, IN 46220): "Covering Indiana's Original Music Scene", these folks seem to be mostly focused on the club scene. They report on the formation of the Indiana Music Coalition to publicize the state's music (by publishing this zine, for one thing) and take a look at The Gizmos. (S-8t)

★★★★★

DISCORDER Feb.-Mar. 1990 ($15/12 months from Room 233, 6138 SUB Blvd., Vancouver, BC, V6T 2A5, CANADA): A music tabloid from CITR-FM, the student radio station at the University of British Columbia. They do some interviews (like Jesus and Mary Chain and Vox Hunt in February) plus some stranger stuff—like the tongue in cheek article on interviewing techniques. They also squeeze in playlists, the occasional comic review, a calendar section sand other cool stuff. (T-32t)

★★★★★

DISCOTEXT Feb.-Mar. 1990 ($15/12 issues from 1250 Richards St., Vancouver, BC, V6B 3G2, CANADA): This music zine is strong on dance music, world beat, ska, reggae, and other sorts of bouncy sounds—not too surprising as it comes from a nightclub. They tell you about their schedule, review stuff, and try to educate readers a bit about the roots of various grooves. (S-16t)

★★★★★

DUMPSTER DIVE #3 ($1 from John Etes, 74 Osbourne Ave., Norwalk, CT 06855): Back after a long absence, this zine proves that there is still hardcore in Connecticut. It starts off with a fine color photocopy cover, and moves into interviews with Seizure, The Wussies, and Fugazi. They do a stack of record reviews too, and use an all-caps typeface which makes the whole seem more aggressive. A couple folks rant about the scene and its problems in this issue too. (S-24)

★★★★★

ELECTRONIC COTTAGE #3 ($3 from Hal McGee, PO Box 3637, Apollo Beach, FL 33572): A magazine of the cassette culture and other bastions of exerimental audio. A lot of prime folks show up in this issue: PBK and Vidna Obmana, Kentucky Fried Royalty, Dave Prescott, Chris Phinney, Illusion of Safety and Lloyd Dunn (with a history of **PHOTOSTATIC**) are among them. Developing into a valuable networking center. (S|HL-68t)

★★★★★

☐**ENDLESS RESISTANCE** #1 ($1 from Glen Hirabayashi, 9325 Garrison Way, Eden prairie, MN 55347): Glen is out of High School now, and celebrating by putting out this title instead of his old **HIGH SCHOOL IS A WASTELAND**. It's basically music coverage, but with a strong thread of social activism, which comes through clearly in the discussion with Destroy, for example. Glen also writes short editorials on political and social topics, as well as a batch of reviews. (S-22)

★★★★★

EXPERIMENTAL MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS Vol. V #5 ($20/6 issues from PO Box 784, Nicasio, CA 94946): A fun newsletter that successfully combines the science of acoustics with the natural inventiveness of musicians and a fine aesthetic sense. Pot drums, strange string instruments, and mallets made of superballs are among the topics in this issue. There's also a fun article on the next generation of musical experimentalists. (S-24r)

★★★★★

FILE 13 #6 ($5/yr from Mark Lo, PO Box 175, Concord, MA 01742): **F13** isn't flashy, it isn't slick, it isn't even typeset. What it is is darned good music coverage constantly exploring and getting better—as with the rap column added to this issue. There are interviews with Albert Garzon and Debbie Jaffe, praise for music I like (including the new Black Girls album), and pans for thing si think deserved it—unswerving honesty is one of the hallmarks here. (S-28r)

★★★★★

FLIPSIDE #64 ($2 from PO Box 363, Whittier, CA 90608): Another fat lump of punk and other alternative music from the Southern California scene. Bands this time around include MDC, Poison Idea, Samiam and the Hardons. They've got a photo essay on a recent Suckdog show, a bunch of scenesters on the state of music in the nineties, and the usual vibrant letters column. An essential to anyone who wants to keep up with new music. (S-88t)

★★★★★

FOUR ALARM CHARM #8 (50¢ (?) from Ernesto Drudge, PO Box 10578, Minneapolis, MN 55458): Music coverage that's mostly reviews of records on the major indie labels, though there's also a fair ear given to local talent. This issue includes a chat with the Cows, a cover article on TVBC, and a pile of reviews. (S-8r)

★★★★★

FOUR LETTER WORDS ($2 from 17 Heritage Ct., Belmont, CA 94002): A fun little zine that comes with a Honeybunch flexidisc (to go along with the Honeybunch interview in the written part). Other featured bands include Galaxie 500 and The Groove Farm. They have a pleasant attitude and a bunch of penpals for you to write to. (HL-20)

★★★★★

FREE THOUGHT FANZINE #2 ($2.25 from Eric Smith, 5219 Wyoming Rd., Bethesda, MD 20816): Eric has taken a lot of care with the look of this fanzine, and it shows. A combination of page borders and lots of color photography makes it stand out from other photocopied zines. There are Killing time, 4 Walls Falling, and the social action punk group Anti-Racist Action, as well as fanzine and music reviews. (S-44)

★★★★★

☐**FRENZY** #2 ($1 (?) from 1131 Golfview Dr. #B, Carmel, IN 46032): A music zine that's centered on metal and hardcore though they do stray into all sorts of unlikely crossovers—like Faith No More's metal-funk-rap combination. Others here incoude Alice Cooper, Testament, and Agnostic Front. Live and recorded music reviews are tucked away in the back. (S-32)

★★★★★

☐**GAINSAY** #2 ($1.25 from Joel Wick, 15 Candlewyck #704, Kalamazoo, MI 49001): A small music zine that concentrates on interviews—and, in a nice touch, prints band addresses right after the interview in case it provoked a comment from you. This issue includes Seven Seconds, Mind Over 4, God's Acre and The Irrelevant, plus a few comics, reviews and so on. (S-24)

★★★★★

☐**GIVE THANKS** #3 ($1 from 138 Putnam Park, Greenwich, CT 06830): A relatively new music zine put out by three guys who just want to have fun. This shows in their interview with American Standard, which touches on a lot of funny subjects as well as their music. They also talk to Heads Up and provide a mixed drink recipe as well as a few reviews. (S-16)

★★★★★

☐**HANDS UP!** #5 ($1 (?) from 10104 Donegal Ct., Potomac, MD 20854): A basic but well-done and carefully-assembled music zine. Interviews in this issue are with Edsel, Judge and Camper Van Beethoven. They also run reviews and a few pages of rather arty prose and pictures. (S-20t)

★★★★★

HEADTRIP #3 ($1 (?) from 609 N. Belmont Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90026): Hardcore and punk music coverage that mostly stays away from the big names (though Sick of It All makes it into this issue) in favor of unknowns and newcomers: Jughead's Revenge and 555 are prominently featured here. They do some nice photo-packed review layouts and in general seem real excited about music and politics. (S-20)

★★★★★

HIJINX Vol. 1 #11-12 ($1 from PO Box 1071, Bloomington, IN 47402): Local and national coverage revolving around the Indiana club scene. They feature photos of local notables, a strange sex columnist, a continuing comic series, and a batch of articles on bands each issue. #11 has Tora Tora and Richter 9; #12 includes Enuff Z'nuff and The Hammer Heads. Lots of boys with long hair and big guitars here. (S-24t)

★★★★★

THE INSIDER #6-9 ($8/12 issues from PO Box 4542, Arlington, VA 22204): A zine designed to be handed out for free at record stores and elsewhere, with the focus on local music. It's grown lately, adding four more pages with #9 and an interview as well as the review coverage and news notes they had in previous issues. (M-8t)

★★★★★

IT RAD LIHR #24 (50¢ from PO Box 472084, Tulsa, OK 74147): Sorta scatterbrained music coverage that wades through a bunch of Midwest records and bands amidst commentary on the political scene and GG Allin. They give a few contact addresses, plug a few shows, and throw in some psychedelic collage. (D-8r)

★★★★★

☐**JAZZSCENE** Dec. 1989 ($25/yr from PO Box 968, Portland, OR 97207): This is the newsletter of the Jazz Society of Oregon, and as such it has a fairly strong focus, with lots of calendar listings, mostly from the Portland area. Richie Cole and Red's Place share the front cover. (S-16t)

★★★★★

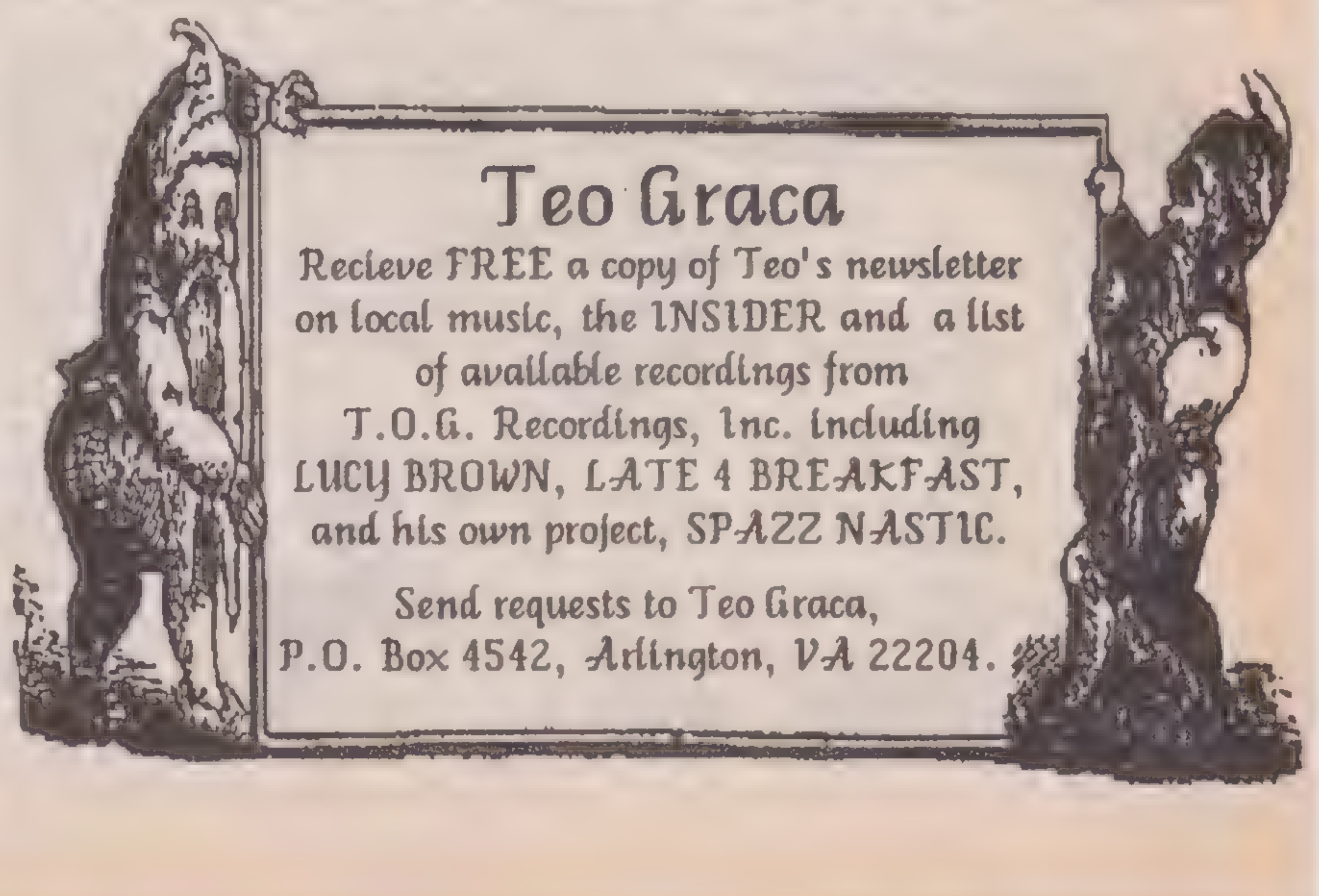
THE KVINDE HADER KLUB #7 ($1 from Herb Jue, 144 Hester St. #8, New York, NY 10013): Page upon page of teeny-tiny print, with music and zine reviews and editorial opinion all mixed together. Herb is a bit disillusioned with some of the new music business these days, but he still manage to put together a good issue here, with some gems identified and some clunkers panned. (S-10r)

★★★★★

THE LEDGE #10 ($2 from Cindy Laufenberg, 321 Cokes Dr., Toms River, NJ 08753): A straightforward music zine: interviews, live shows, records. They talk to Die Kreuzen and Nude Swirl in this issue, review shows from REM to Winter Hours, and review a fair number of records, tapes, and zines. Another viewpoint on indie music. (S-24)

★★★★★

LOADED #2 ($2 from Dutch East India, PO Box 800, Rockville Centre, NY 11571-0800): One thing about being the zine from Dutch East: your gossip column will have lots more major news than the one in, say, **JOE'S ZINE FROM PEORIA**. That aside, this is mostly interviews: a good one with Glenn Branca, one that I didn't like



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quite so much with Peter Stampfel. Shonen Knife is also featured along with a batch of record reviews, mostly of discs from the major indies. (S-60t)

★★★★★

THE MANDOCRUCIAN'S DIGEST #15 ($3 from Niles Hokkanen, PO Box 1935, Martinsburg, WV 25401): A tabloid just for mandolin players (well, they include other relatively obscure stringed instruments as well). There's a lengthy interview with Peter Ostroushko in this issue. Regular features include letters, reviews, and columns on various playing styles. (T-16r)

★★★★★

MAXIMUM ROCKNROLL #80-82 ($2.50 from PO Box 288, Berkeley, CA 94701): An essential part of the music scene, even if very few of the pages are focused on the usual interviews and reviews. Instead they have extensive letters, lots of columnists, scene reports, and their own little newspaper section. A great source of information and contacts for punkers of all sorts. #81 has the results of their first questionnaire and an interview with Ted from See Hear. (S-128t)

★★★★★

MOE WORKS AT WAL-MART Vol. 2 #1 ($1 (?) from Bob Pomeroy, 1213 1/2 E. New Orleans, Tampa, FL 33603): A short music zine which does some major groups, some up and coming ones (Eleventh Dream Day is prominent in this issue) and some unknowns, for a good mix. They also take a look at tribute albums, like the Neil Young centered "The Bridge". (S-10r)

★★★★★

MORAL LEDGE #2 ($1 from 6004 Indian Trail, Sylvania, OH 43560): There's a whole pile of record reviews in the back here, and before that reviews of Gwar and a few other shows, but much of this is social rather than musical in intent. They print a batch of anti-smoking stuff (including a suite of White Boy poems), arguments for vegetarianism, and other straight edgish sorts of things. (D-28t)

★★★★★

MOSHABLE #6 ($2 from Lars Krogh, Korevej 18h, 9210 Alborg, DENMARK): A cool European hardcore and related music fanzine that's all in English. For that matter, they work in American bands, like Gorilla Biscuits and More Fiends. Their interviews are lengthy and chatty with plenty of photos. They also have reviews and a couple of pages about Italian splatter films. Subscriptions are $5/3 issues including postage. (A4-32t)

★★★★★

□**MOUTH** #4($8/12 issues from Futura Press, PO Box 2069, Decatur, GA 30030): A nicely laid out music zine, with a sort of posterish feel to it—lots of photos and open layouts. Mary My Hope and Dash Rip Rock are the spotlighted bands here, along with a chat with a local club owner. (T-8t)

★★★★★

MY KINDA ZINE #1 ($1 from Michael, 3705 W. 68th Ave. #405, Westminster, CO 80030): A small zine of music and social action. There's pages on multinational corporations and prisoners rights, as well as interviews with the Warlock Pinchers and Phantasmorgasm. Small and sketchy, but interested in hearing from people and having fun. (S-12)

★★★★★

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH #2 (2 IRCs (?) from 1 South View, Main Street, Mexborough, South Yorkshire, S64 9NE, UK): A zine which focuses in on its own local music scene as far as reviews go, but then branches out more widely to include contact addresses across the country and in the US. They have an interesting chunk on where to get promo kit items and records pressed in this issue. (A5-8r)

★★★★★

□**THE NEW MUSIC SCENE** Vol. 2 #6-7 ($5/8 issues from Gloria Sheehan, PO Box 10775, Stamford, CT 06904): A look at popular music on the verge of being big, with #6 having The Pixies, Hoard Jones and the Pogues and #7 Debbie Harry and Shawn Colvin, for example. They also publish amusing tongue-in-cheek news and their own chart of the 16 best current songs. (S-20)

★★★★★

NEW ROUTE #7 ($5/4 issues from 67-73 Spring St., New York, NY 10012): A music zine for the college radio market—indeed, it's distributed on-campus by many stations. This issue features Ice-T, a page of opinion from Roger Manning, Voivod, the Gun Club, and others. (D-24t)

★★★★★

□**NO EXIT: withdrawal** #1 ($1.50 from John Piche, 2622 Princeton Rd., Cleveland Heights, OH 44118): A new music zine with a focus on the local Cleveland scene and on the music itself rather than politic,s business or hardcore fashion. They chat with Integrity and The Believers here and review a stack of recirds. A solid start. (S-20)

★★★★★

THE NOISE #91-92 ($10/yr from Timothy Maxwell, 74 Jamaica St., JP, Boston, MA 02130): This Boston music zine continues it series of photos of scenester's tattoos in #91. They also review a batch of cool music, both live and recorded, including offerings from Jerry's Kids and the Del Fuegos. The ever-loving Beeheads are back in #92, along with Birdsongs of the Mesozoic and Moving Targets. (S-24)

★★★★★

NOISY CONCEPT #1 ($1 from Mike Thain, 621 Bassett Rd., Bay Village, OH 44140): This used to be **RESTORE**, but isn't any more. It keeps getting better, though, and I don't say that just because Mike carries my own column on zines. He also prints interviews with a whole slew of hardcore bands, including Token Entry, Screeching Weasel, Murphy's Law and lots more. There's a piece on the anarchist gathering and another on Ingsoc, a libertarian propaganda outfit aimed at punks. A good feel for the scene pervades it all. (D-40r)

★★★★★

THE NOTE Vol. 5 #2-3 ($12.95/12 issues from 735.5 New Hampshire, Lawrence, KS 66044): A music tabloid that concentrates on happenings in and around Kansas. They cover the club scene well, and have columns on video and jazz as well as the normal range of rock and metal artists. Good attention to scheduling makes them useful, and the interview with Harry Connick, Jr. in #2 is informative and fun. #3 picks up Hunter Thompson's column and discusses the legal fallout of sampling. (T-20t)

★★★★★

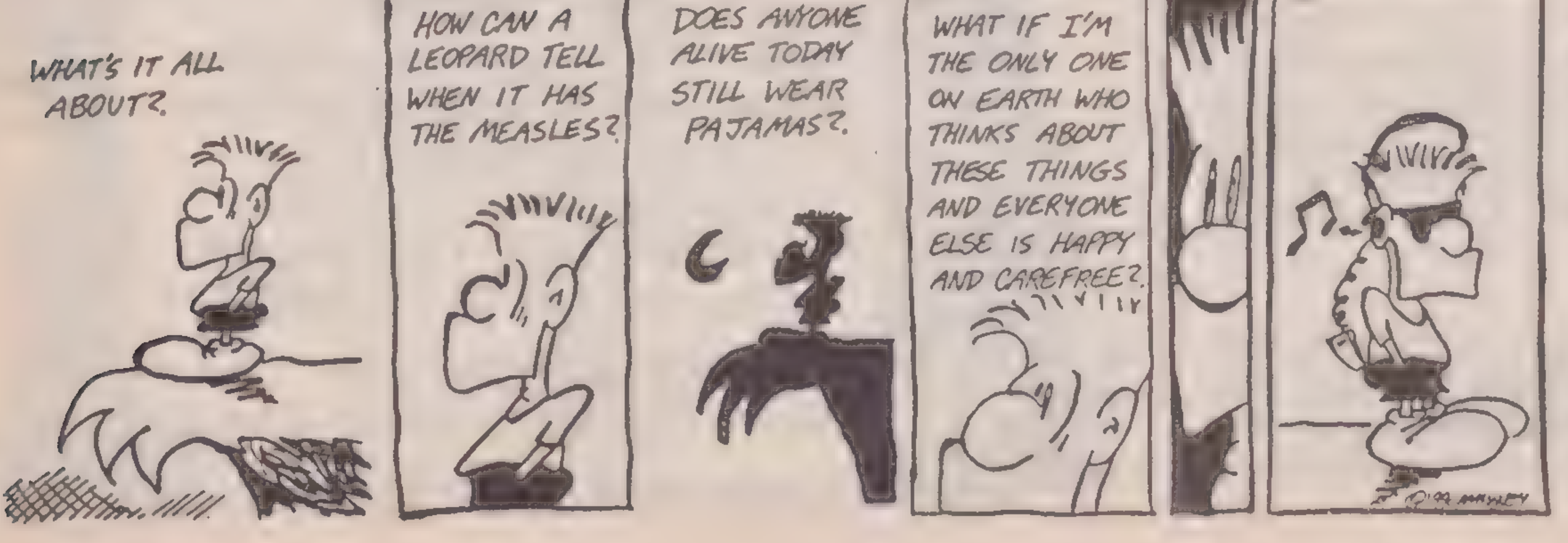
THE OBLIGATOR Vol. III #1 ($1 from Mark Hodges, PO Box 915, Muskegon, MI 49443-0915): A music magazine aimed at Christians, with articles on evangelism and theology as well as music. This issue has a look at the Furnace Room label, as well as notes on Breakfast With Amy, Chosen Stranger, and Empty Tomb. (S-12r)

★★★★★

THE OCEAN #1-2 ($2 from Jay O'Toole, 46 Briarwood Dr., Westwood, MA 02090): A specialized little zine for folks who are into trading Led Zeppelin bootleg tapes, records, CDs and magazines. They give free ad space to those who buy an issue, and review things as well as offer them. (S-12)

★★★★★

ONE SHOT #4 ($3 from Steven Rosen, PO Box 1284, Cincinnati, OH 45201): A music magazine that looks back on neglected (and sometimes not so neglected) rock and roll from an earlier era. Frankie Ford is the lead story in this issue ("Sea Cruise" is his best-known


WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?
HOW CAN A LEOPARD TELL WHEN IT HAS THE MEASLES?
DOES ANYONE ALIVE TODAY STILL WEAR PAJAMAS?
WHAT IF I'M THE ONLY ONE ON EARTH WHO THINKS ABOUT THESE THINGS AND EVERYONE ELSE IS HAPPY AND CAREFREE?

number) and there's a longish article on great streaks of hitting the charts. (S-20t)

★★★★★

OPTION #31 ($4 from 2345 Westwood Blvd. #2, Los Angeles, CA 90064): I read **OPTION** primarily for the news on trends in the indie music industry and for notes on technical wizardry, these being the things they do much better than other mags I get. But that's not to disparage the bulk of their musical coverage, which goes into depth on folks like Kate Bush, Copernicus, and the Laughing Hyenas. They still make room for jazz, world beat, and other less salable genres as well, and carry a fair slug of record reviews. (S-130t)

★★★★★

OUTER SHELL #52-53 (SASE from 9807 61st Ln. Pinellas Park, FL 34666-3131): A music zine that's been running on a freebie basis for ages and is still going strong, Besides the usual shellfish jokes (a recipe for plankton burgers in this issue), the main event in #52 is an interview with Faith No More. Shane Williams reappears in #53. (S-4r)

★★★★★

□**POLY 800 USERS GROUP** Vol. 3 #3 ($8/4 issues from Henry Schneider, 210 Woodcombe, Houston, TX 77062): The Poly 800 is a particular kind of synthesizer (from KORG), and this is for people who use it. They print technical information as well as interviews with people who use them, and are preparing a compilation tape. (S-14t)

★★★★★

□**PORTLAND LIVE MUSIC GUIDE** Vol. 2 #9 ($12/6 months from PO Box 12072, Portland, OR 97212): This is another of those simple ideas that could be put out in many localities—though this is the only example I know of. Basically it's a database of live shows, sorted and presented by date, by venue, by performer and by type of music. Looks pretty comprehensive—also looks like Portland is a good music town. (S-32t)

★★★★★

POSITIVELY ENTERTAINMENT & DINING Vol. 13 #13-Vol. 14 #1 ($15/yr from Crooked Arrow Publishing Co., PO Box 16009, Portland, OR 97216): This is a guide to nightlife in the Portland area, but since that includes plenty of opportunities to go out and hear some tunes I thought I'd put it in this section today. They cover some rock, but are strongest in other genres from C&W to the blues. The Ray Thomas Band are the featured performers in #13. (T-12t)

★★★★★

POWER PACKER Vol. 2 #1 ($3/3 issues from Cameron Gillespie, 11216 Oakwood Dr., Dunkirk, MD 20754): A metal zine that's made up mainly of chats with different bands: Oliver Magnum, Powermad, Sorceror and Exmortis all feature in this interview. They have a gossip page and one where contributors clue us in as to what's on their turntables, plus reviews of current music. (S-28)

★★★★★

□**PUDDLE** #4 ($1 from PO Box 381, Miranda, CA 95553): There seems to be almost more punk scene than music in this zine, which has a loose and scattered feeling about it. Poetry, essays, a history of the band BumbleScrump, comics, reviews, who knows. There's also a comp tape available ($4 for the tape and the zine) but I haven't heard it. (S-24)

★★★★★

PUNCTURE #18 ($10/4 issues from 1592 Union St. #431, San Francisco, CA 94123): Music and nothing but (well, a few books and some art get reviewed, way in the bak) in a great-looking DTP format. Of course, anyone who'd put a member of Black Girls on the cover is cool with me. Anyhow, they cover all sorts of music I like, and they like it too: Pixies, Poi Dog Pondering, Blake Babies, Band of Susans and lots more. A huge collection of interviews and reviews from the alternative music scene, that might turn you on to a few things you'd otherwise miss. (S-66t)

★★★★★

PUNX NOT DEAD #3 ("Trade for Punk Rock Stuff" from PO Box 60254, Oklahoma City, OK 73146): A collection of clippings and photocopies with some relation to punk rock—though sometimes the connection is tenuous. The articles here are uncredited, but obviously reprints, in their coverage of the Pogues, the Minutemen, and other big names. (S-6)

★★★★★

PUPPETHEAD #1 ($1 from 159 Myrtle St., Medford, MA 02155): Mostly music this time around, though there are hints that editor Derby may try to make it a fuller slice of life in the future. There's a strange cut-up Sonic Youth review, and interview with the Red Hot Chili Peppers (who come off as perfect assholes) and some stick-figure punk comics in this premiere. (HL-20)

★★★★★

□**RAMBLIN' ROSE** Vol. 1 #2 ($1.50 from Pierre Roussel, 2320 Terasse Mercure, 3rd Fl., Montreal, QUE, H2H 1R6, CANADA): A music zine with some content in French, though most is in English. Record reviews, a RIPCORDZ interview, and some notes on why McDonalds is a bad company may all be found here. (S-16)

★★★★★

REAL LIFE IN A BIG CITY Jan.-Feb. 1990 ($10/yr from Debi Dip, 6520 Selma #332, Los Angeles, CA 90028): Each issue opens with an interview (Groovie Ghoulies in January, Pygmy Love Circus in February), which seems (along with reviews) to center the zine on music. Later things get stranger, with "Strange But Weird" news bits, the comic adventurs of Stubo (the cat with no paws) and stories and stuff. (S-26)

★★★★★

□**REAR WINDOW** #1 ($2 from Cubist Productions, 3408 Juliet St., Pittsburgh, PA 15213): A mostly-music zine (the freemasons and some Melissa Jasper dreams creep into this issue) that emphasizes live music by reviewing lots of it. They also do a pile of record reviews, some by big name indies, some by unknowns. Interviews include David Greenberger and Unrest. A good show, anchored in college radio land. (D-44t)

★★★★★

□**RECOIL** #2 ($2 ppd from Joe Graham, 3 Curzon Avenue, Victoria Park, Manchester, M14 5PU, UK): A music zine with a psychedelic look but a wide range of new music. Mudhoney, New Model Army, the Beatnigs and rock from the Basque country all make this issue. There are also reviews of potato chips ("crisps") and various bits of political commentary and odd humor, plus a guide to teen rock idols from Kerouac to Thompson. (A4-28r)

★★★★★

THE REPEAL OF DECORUM Vol. 4 #3 (On request from WRPI, 1 WRPI Plaza, Troy, NY 12180): This one is produced by the folks at the campus radio station at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and it goes far beyond being a playlist. They're a very eclectic station, which is represented in the reviews. Even more interesting is the major article, filling most of this issue: Seymour Melman's "Where Will the Engineers Work as the Cold War Winds Down?", a transcript of a talk he gave at RPI. (S-24t)

★★★★★

□**RESISTANT HARMONY** #4 ($1.50 from Scotti, PO Box 478, Croydon 3136, Victoria, AUSTRALIA): That's a price for within Australia; I don't see overseas prices listed. A friendly music zine that mostly concentrates on Australian and American groups but also includes Phyakoulu (from Finland) in this issue. They've got free stickers and interviews with Henry Rollins, Insyte, Stikky, Public Disgrace and others here, plus scene reports from a few major cities in Australia. (A4-44r)

★★★★★

□**RETROFUTURISM** #12 ($2 from the Tape-Beatles, PO Box 8907, Iowa City, IA 52244): Previously a part of **PHOTOSTATIC**, this dissection of experimental audio is now out on its own. Besides discussing the doings of the Tape-Beatles, it contains reviews of experimental works in various media (not all music) and feature articles—this time an interview with John Oswald about his (now unavailable) "Plunderphonics" CD. (HL-20t)

★★★★★

ROCK & ROLL CONFIDENTIAL #75-76 ($24/yr from PO Box 15052, Long Beach, CA 90815): Dave Marsh's newsletter of insider gossip, pick hits, and music politics. He's still leading the charge against music censorship, with #75 headlining an article on various proposed restrictive state labeling laws. (S-8t)

★★★★★

ROCKHEAD Vol. 17 #2 ($12/4 issues from Utopian Technology, 2601 McAllister St., San Francisco, CA 94118): This tabloid is put out by people associated with the Kerista commune and as such they're concerned with far more than music—so while the coverage of everything from Hendrix to rap may draw you in, they hope you'll stay to read about the liberatory potential of computers and group living. Plenty to read, with an unabashed technophilic bent to it. (T-40t)

★★★★★

ROLLIN UNDER #20 ($3 from PO Box 17590, 54009 Thessaloniki, GREECE): A fine-looking Greek-language music zine that manages a slick cover and even a few color pages. They feature the usual mix of interviews, stories and reviews, with Cindy Talk, the Church, Verbal Assault and the ROIR and Homestead record labels among the subjects in this issue. (S_64t)

★★★★★

ROX Vol. 2 #8 ($20/yr from 2502 Beverly Dr., Joppa, MD 21085): Local and national music coverage from the Baltimore area. Although they're strongest in metal and rock, they've been branching out lately into progressive and jazz as well. Besides covering gossip and club schedules, they interview a reasonable number of bands in each issue, with Shark Island and Monkey Spank being among the offerings in #8. (T-32t)

★★★★★

☐**RUMBLE** Vol. 1 #1 ($3 (?) from PO Box 1, 2710 Hoboken 1, BELGIUM): A new zine from folks who used to work on **RIFRAF**, still covering European and American indie music. This issue has a spread on Kramer and Shimmy-Disc, plus Faith No More, King Koen, Band of Susans and Poesie Noire. (A4-20)

★★★★★

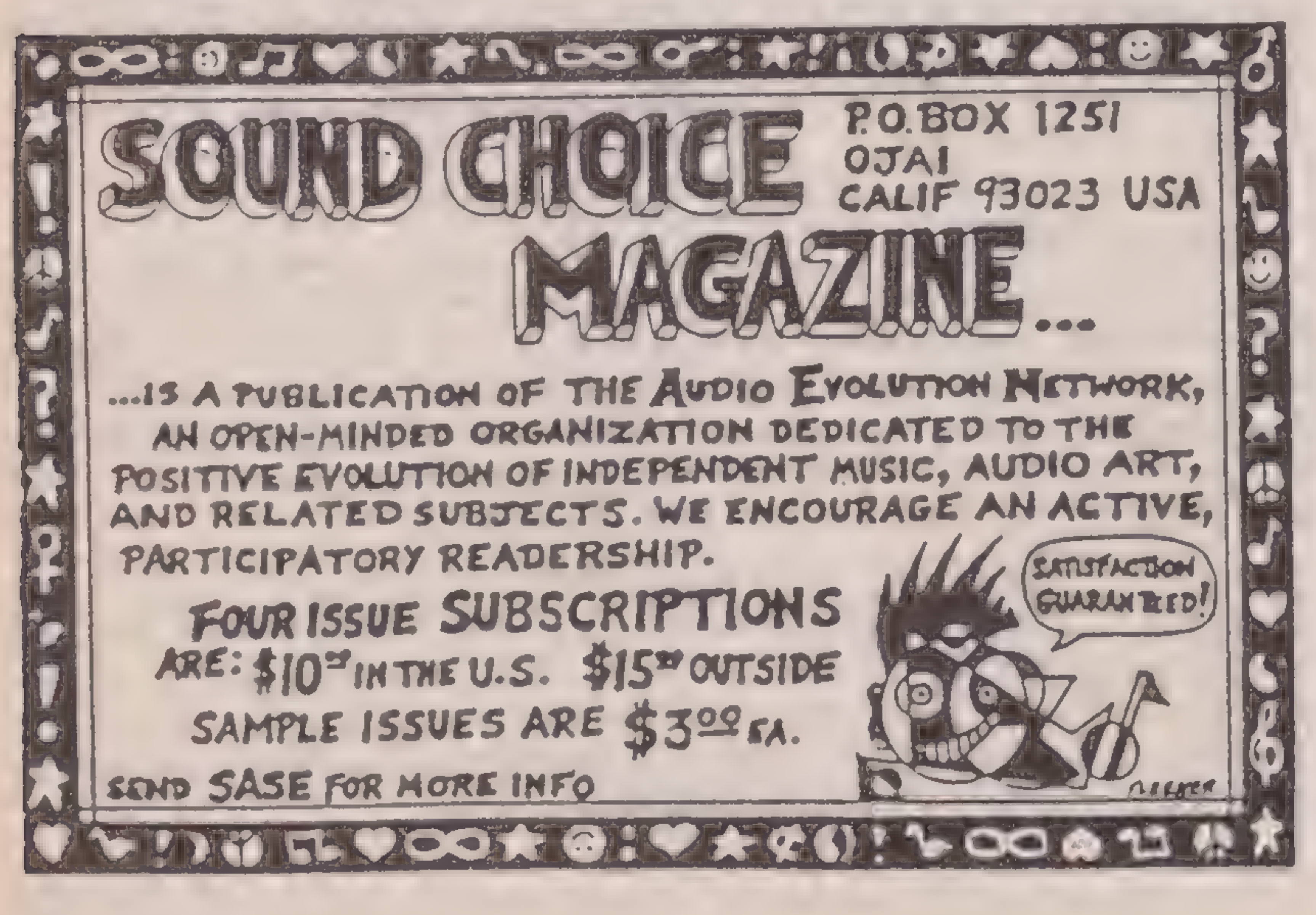
☐**SCHERZO** Vol. II #2 ($20/11 issues from Jimm Omodt, 3016 NE 19th, Portland, OR 97212): "A Magazine for Music Students"—which in this case means beginners. It's full of activities and things to draw which are aimed at elementary-level kids. They range from mazes and connect the dots to exercises with writing and interpreting the fundamentals of sheet music. (S-17)

★★★★★

SECONDS #10 ($2 from PO Box 2553, Stuyvesant Stn., New York, NY 10009): A music tabloid with a glossy cover and an all-interview format. They hop around from the major acts to the underground, and cover each pretty well. This issue includes Peter Frampton, Alice Cooper, NWA, 24-7 Spyz, Jason Bonham, Al Green, Die Kreuzen and lots more. (T-32t)

★★★★★

SEVEN #2 ($5 from Scat Records, PO Box 141161, Cleveland, OH 44114): The second issue of Scat's multimedia zine promoting seven-inch records, this time revolving around an interview with and cool record from Starvation Army, who have a great dark sound. There's also toys, S&M advice, thoughts on the state of the 7", the Scat catalog, photo inserts, and other goodies, all in a bag. The perfect collector's item, since it's inexpensive and well worth having even if you're not the sort of slug who buys ten and waits for them to appreciate. (Various)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SEXY #2 (25¢ [be nice, send a stamp too] from Kate Moeller, Rt. 2, Seymour, WI 54165): Yes, there is a scene in Seymour, and Kate and co-conspirator Jenny Zahn take a look at it. They're real good at spotting macho bullshit and calling people on it. They also review records and talk to a couple of bands—Demise and Tat-L-Tale. (D-16)

★★★★★

SHEET METAL #8($2.50 from Festering Publications, 2235 France Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55416): This is the last giant issue of this metal fanzine, and Jake makes it a good one (starting with the next one, it';ll be twelve pages for a buck). Besides the stories on bands from the Red Hot Chili Peppers to Testaments, Bullet Lavolta, and Soundgarden, and the ton of reviews, there's a 24-page splatter comic tucked in the back. It's all between slick covers and full of the latest loud music. (S-72t)

★★★★★

☐**SHOCKWAVE** Vol. 1 #1 ($15/yr from PO Box 767, Reistertown, MD 21136): A new music zine that seems to be concentrating on bands poised to break in the Baltimore to New York area. Child's Play, DRI, Tora Tora, and Fate's Warning are among the folks in this first issue. (S-20t)

★★★★★

SILTBREEZE #5-6 ($1 from PO Box 53297, Philadelphia, PA 19105): Crude music combined with crudely reproduced pornography. They're into grunge, experimental stuff, loud punk, and other nasty genres. Pretty offensive in spots, but they do know their tastes in music well. (D-16r)

★★★★★

THE SINGLE EYE #2 (3 IRCs or The Usual from Allan Clark, PO Box 1415, Stn. H, Montreal, Que., H3G 2W4, CANADA): A music zine which tends to concentrate on the harsher genres. The main interview here is with Illusion of Safety; they also speak with Lars Hollmer. Reviews are housed in a separate booklet. The tone is sort of restrained but informative. (S-12r & D-12r)

★★★★★

☐**SKA•95** #1 (SASE from Chris Charla, Box 127, 89 Massachusetts Ave., Boston, MA 02115): A new music zine that hopes to concentrate on ska but could really use some contributions to get started. This issue has some music and some zine reviews, but they also feature a story about haircuts and a brief look at mass murders in post offices. (S-8t)

★★★★★

☐**SKELS LIFE** #7 ($1 from Mytery Fez, PO Box 711, East Northport, NY 11731): The Skels are a band, and this is sort of about their career. Most of it is just funny sidelines on the biz, with "The Insult That Made a Stiff out of a Stooge" and the guide to translating music-talk being my favorites. Bodes well for their sound. (D-12)

★★★★★

SKULL SESSION #12 ($1 from Brad Mitchell, 3187 Keynes Ct., Mississauga, ONT, L5N 2Z7, CANADA): A music zine that covers a pretty good variety of international and Canadian alternatives. Raped Teenager (from Sweden) lead off this issue, and later on there are interviews with Skeletal Earth and Nasal Sex. They also publish strange news stories and altered comics. (S-30)

★★★★★

☐**SO** #1 ($1 (?) from Ronnie Rocket Press, 1302 Saltair Ave. #13, Los Angeles, CA 90025): A two-part zine, at least conceptually, though it's all stapled together, The first part is focused on music, primarily an interview with Peter Murphy. The second is devoted to a couple of horror stories, which are hard to judge since both are serialized and just starting out. (S-14)

★★★★★

SOLD OUT #9 ($1.50 from PO Box 7071, Windsor, ONT, N9C 3Y6, CANADA): Slick typeset puppy that sticks pretty much to hardcore and closely-related music (one clue: too many reverse-type layouts). There's a pullout slick Negative Approach poster, plus long chats with bands like Bad Brains, Laughing Hyenas, and Wrecking Crew. A pile of record reviews round out the issue, though tapes have been dropped due to workload problems. (S-44t)

★★★★★

☐SPACEBALL RICOCHET #6 ($1.50 from PO Box 71294, Milwaukee, WI 53211): Though they wander off into the other arts (film, gallery showings, American totems) from time to time, the core here is new music. They've got Toad the Wet Sprocket and The Meatment prominently featured, plus some reviews, a short story and an article about One Fish, Blue Fish. (S-32t)

★★★★★

SPINAL JAUNDICE #9 ($2 (?) from 7647 S. Pierce Way, Littleton, CO 80123): A music zine with a decided penchant for the industrial side of things, which is only fitting seeing as it is associated with the DU label. There's a lot of reviews here, both of written and audio material, plus select interviews—Illusion of Safety being the one I enjoyed most A full-page sticker lends an air of mystery to the production as well. (S-36)

★★★★★

SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTION #11 ($1 from Mike Vinikour, 3943 Cumnor Rd., Downers Grove, IL 60515): A music zine that grooves on Skinny Puppy, who get a big chunk of the interview space here. There's also a chat with The Fiendz and a batch of live and recorded music reviews. Mostly punk but branching out to include other kinds of music. (S-36)

★★★★★

SPUN #50 ($1 *CASH/MO* from Doug Chapel Comics, 38 Reservoir St., Holden, MA 01520): Usually this runs as part of Doug's CHAPEL ZONE comic, but in celebration of #50 it's back on its own. Music and zine reviews, an appreciation of Skinny Puppy, and a comic on why indie music is cool are the highlights of this graphically-oriented new music discussion. (D-12)

★★★★★

STEPPINGSTONE Vol. 1 #25-26 ($15/yr from Baby Faze Productions, PO Box 4264, San Francisco, CA 94101): They're including more original material these days, but the bulk of this music zine is still composed of record company press releases. This is fine if you want to read hype and quotable quotes, but I find that it gets old pretty quick. On the other hand, they are managing to get a fair amount of indie advertising. (D-36r)

★★★★★

☐STILL NO SYMPTOMS ($1.50 from Liz Colker, 191 Wooster St. #2A, New Haven, CT 06511): Mostly music here, although they do get into movie and TV reviews towards the end. Lots of live stuff, lots of challenging noise, like Einsturzende Neubaten or Ministry. Reviews and opinion predominate, though some stories creep in. The collage background includes a lot of stuff that could be offensive, from Jack Chick comics to bondage photos. (S-26)

★★★★★

THE STONES #17 ($2.25 from Robert Furrer, PO Box 603, Suisun City, CA 94585): A fanzine for fans of the Rolling Stones. They print news clippings new and old, photos of record labels, discographies, and reviews of current shows. There's also the odd feature article like the rundown of collaborations between the Stones and the Beatles in this issue. (S-26)

★★★★★

☐STRANGE DAMAGE #1 ($1.20 & 67¢ shipping from 2 Highland St. #7, Whitefield, NH 03598): A music zine that splits about evenly between a long and chatty California scene report and an interview with one of the folks from Generica. They toss a bit of other stuff into the sloppy layout, and get in a few interviews as well. Real "punk". (D-24)

★★★★★

THIS STRANGE EFFECT #2 (50¢ (?) from Box 115, 2718 SW Kelly #C, Portland, OR 97201): A handwritten zine devoted—at least for this issue—to the Kinks. Most of this issue is a track-by-track review of the UK Jive album. There's also a top ten list of Kinks songs covered by other bands. (D-8)

★★★★★

STRANJER FANZINE #1 ($1.50 from Erik Szantai, 15 Van Saun Dr., Trenton, NJ 08628): This punk zine has grown and blossomed in its first ten issues, and is looking pretty good these days. In addition to the music—Henry Rollins, My Dad Is Dead, Sick of It All—they sneak in some movie reviews and pornographic fortune cookie sayings. Nothing too flashy, just lots of reviews and thoughts on new music. (S-24t)

★★★★★

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SCAT EIGHT: Seven: Scat Records Quarterly #3 ...$5 ppd. The only rag devoted to the seven-inch single. Includes Crash 7" and interview, groovy playthings, brain candy galore, comes in a bag...will give meaning to your life. Limited edition of 1,200, available May 1.

SCAT SEVEN: My Dad is Dead "Shine" double 7" EP...$6 ppd. Mark Edwards is perhaps the most honest, unpretentious songwriter of our time. Really. Four of these songs are new, vastly different versions of songs which have appeared on previous MDID LP's and are rerecorded here with Prisonshake rhythm section, Chris Burgess and Scott Pickering. The other four songs are new and range from more traditional MDID musings to an Appalachian folk song. Limited edition of 1,500, pressed on blood-red vinyl with black swirls.

SCAT SIX: Prisonshake: "I'm Really Fucked Now" multi-format set...$18 ppd. Udderly huge magnum opus of guitar drivel, pound, and cry. Contains one CD (preview of the forthcoming double LP), one LP (best of the four out-of-print singles, many tracks remixed, clear vinyl), one cassette (out-takes, demos, unreleased stuff), and one 7" (collaboration with My Dad Is Dead). Well-nigh 3 hours of nirvana. Limited edition of 1,000.

SCAT TWO: Various Artists "Hotel Cleveland" LP...$7 ppd. Necessary heavy compilation featuring Prisonshake, Crash, Ghost Sonata, and Starvation Army. Actually, this record doesn't really exist other than in advertisements, but we'll throw together something resembling a record if you order this. Be a saint and buy it, fortune will smile on your undertakings.

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□**STRONTIUM '90s #1** ($1.50 from Stephen Farenga, PO Box 145, Elmsford, NY 10523): Half music half social commentary; I guess I'll put it here since the cover is all music. Articles discuss the perils of asbestos in New York City, the recent phone strike and the plight of the elephants. Musically they run from Toxic Youth to Debbie Harry. Club scene stories, cartoons, record reviews...there's plenty here to appreciate. A great first issue. (S-20t)

★★★★★

SUBURBAN VOICE #28 ($3 from Al Quint, PO Box 1605, Lynn, MA 01903): Still a large load of punk and hardcore music, this time with a Haywire/Left Insane hard-vinyl EP included. Featured bands include Cro-Mags, No For an Answer and Sick of It All. There's also live show coverage and an amazing number of record and tape reviews, plus a few columns and other goodies. An anchor of consistency in the seas of punkzines. (S-56r)

★★★★★

□**SYNTHESIS** Vol. 1 #3 (50¢ from Jason Marcewicz, 219 Napfle St., Philadelphia, PA 19111): "A Forum for Musicians and Fans of Electronic Music". This issue attempts to sort out the various electronic subgenres and give recommended examples in each one. There's also an interview with the folks over at Poison Plant music. (S-4t)

★★★★★

TEXAS BEAT Vol. 1 #3-4 ($20/12 issues from PO Box 4429, Austin, TX 78765): "Favorite Music of the 90's", blasts the neo-psychedelic cover of #3. Inside there's music from Austin, Houston, Dallas, and San Antonio, mostly segregated by city and with an ear towards the club scene. The fat man is still handing out advice for new musicians, and there's an extensive studio contact list. (S-24t)

★★★★★

THANG! #10 ($1.50 from Mike Hibarger, 185 Winthrop #1, Brookline, MA 02146): Lots of photos are scattered through the interviews and reviews in this one...some of them even have something to do with music. Probably the most interesting interview is with Flour and Steve Albini, which gets into all sorts of industry stuff. Mudhoney and Jesus Lizards feature prominently too. Good friendly size, too, not too big to haul around and actually *read*. (S-26t)

★★★★★

□**THIS ROCK & ROLL #1** ($2 from Chris Karmiol, c/o AIR, 285 W. Broadway #300, New York, NY 10013): This rock and roll seems to mostly happen in New York—at least, it's difficult to imagine a band like Low Meato being from anywhere else. Also prominently featured are Lunachicks, Lemonheads, Butthole Surfers and (a blast fro the past) MC5 at the Democratic National Convention. There's even record reviews from Mom. One hint, guys—don't run text around pictures like that again if you want anyone to read it. (S-18t)

★★★★★

□**THROBBING TOOL/UNSUNG** ($1.50 from Tim Skelly, PO Box 7040, Erie, PA 166510): Two zines back-to-back and sharing the same color photocopy cover, both concerned with new music. TT seems to incline more towards discussion, with records reviewed by a couple of friends conversing, while UNSUNG has scene news and an interview with Shudder To Think. (D-40r)

★★★★★

□**TOINEN VAIHTOEHTO #16-17** ($1 from PL 1, 65200 Vaasa, FINLAND): A Finnish rock zine that comes out every couple of weeks. #17 is probably the one for English-speakers to ask for, since it's got a summary of the zine's activities and the local scene in English inside. There's also an itnerview with Deggial and international classifieds. (D-20r)

★★★★★

□**TOMMY MAGAZINE #96** (Mauro Missana, Via Umberto I, 146, 33034 Fagagna (Udine), ITALY): An Italian-language music zine that has obviously been around for a long time. This ish opens with an interview with David Ciaffardini. Later on there are The Gang, Yugoslavian core, Overload, A.C.T.H. and more. Includes a batch of record reviews too. (A4-37)

★★★★★

TRUST #22 ($4 air/$3 surface [NO CHECKS] from Dolf Hermannstädter jun., Salzmanstrasse 53, 8900 Augsberg, WEST GERMANY): My German-language hardcore and punk connection; too bad I've lost most of the German I ever knew, because it's a far package. I can still look at the pictures and tell you the bands in this issue include Chemical People, Lazy Cowgirls, and Noise Annoys, and that they're running a readers' poll. (A4-64t)

★★★★★

TSCHERNOBILLY #10 ($2 from Martin Pick, Postfach 10 08 12, 5600 Wuppertal 1, WEST GERMANY): A punk zine with collage layouts and the occasional disgusting graphic, including the RK Sloane comic in the centerfold of this issue. The contents are in German, and coverage includes Bab Brains, Jaime Trujillo, Inhuman Conditions and lots more of international punkers. (A5-40r)

★★★★★

□**TV EYE** (IRCs from Livieratos Vagelis, Hatopoulou 4-1, 546 29 Salonica, GREECE): A Greek-language music zine that has a lot of North American groups: the two issues at hand feature Deja Voodoo, Bob Mouldand Thee Hypnotics, as well as Psychic TV. Looks like mostly long features with a sprinkling of short reviews. (T-4t)

★★★★★

UGLY AMERICAN #5 ($3 from Greg Chapman, PO Box 8433, Red Bank, NJ 07701): A fanzine with a real bad attitude, but what do you expect of an outfit that not only puts Lisa Suckdog on staff but sics her as an interviewer on unsuspecting bands. Interviews with Cop Shoot Cop, the Dustdevils, Lubricated Goat and Peach of Immortality serve to spread out the best parts: reviews where they blow off anyone they find even remotely pretentious or boring. (S-80)

★★★★★

□**UNADULTERATED METAL** Vol. 2 #1 ($1 from Dennie McGarry, 5701 Gorham Dr., Charlotte, NC 28226): Your basic heavy metal fanzine, with coverage of a lot of bands in short chunks. Britny Fox, Babylon AD, Bang Tango and Nitro are among the groups in this issue. (S-18)

★★★★★

UNBROKEN CHAIN Vol. 4 #6-Vol. 5 #1 ($5/3 issues from Laura Paul Smith, PO Box 8726, Richmond, VA 23226): A zine for the Grateful Dead community—whether full-out Deadheads or just folks who appreciate the music. They track tours, print set lists and press coverage, and generally seem to be having a good time. #6 has a number of notes from Deadheads in prison, as well as much on a murder outside a Dead show. (S-12r)

★★★★★

□**UNCUT FUNK #1** ($5 from David Mills, PO Box 732, N. College Park, MD 20910): A nicely-done oversized zine of funk and rap music, by a journalist who knows his stuff—among other things, Mills is the one that Professor Griff made those incredible anti-semitic statements to. Anyhow, he talks to Chuck D and Ice-T and George Clinton, plus provides plenty of reviews. There's also a look at the early years of the Parliaments and various folks' lists of the funkiest albums of the 19802. (O-32t)

★★★★★

□**UNDERCOVER #1** ($1.50 from 12226 Victory Blvd. #1, N. Hollywood, CA 91606): This music zine has two unusual things going for it: the editors, Nat and Mag, are both women; and there's more analysis of the scene than I see in most zines. None of this gets in the way of the interviews (Underdog, Social Justice, Brotherhood, and more) and the cool photos, but it helps fill the zine out. There's a strong anti-fascist tone here as well, plus some ragging on anarchists for being unrealistic. (S-52)

★★★★★

□**UNDERWORLD #1** ($1 (?) from Robert Sing, PO Box 13934, Savannah, GA 31416): A new music zine which, despite the lack of a scene in Savannah, does quite a bit in this first issue. Bloodcum and Eviction get interviewed, there's thoughts on nihilism and the revolutionary possibilities of toilet paper, and a bunch of record reviews. Some tabloid filler and a bunch of zine ads sneak in as well. (S-18)

★★★★★

UNHINGED #5 (£1.90 from Paul Ricketts, The Old Schoolhouse, Yatesbury, Nr Calne, Wilts, SN11 8YE, UK): A music zine which picks a few groups and explores them in detail, staying more or less off the beaten path. #5 features Wednesday Week (who kindly provide a two-song flexi), Penelope Houston, The Walkabouts and American Music Club. There are also a pull out calendar and reviews and a nice editorial presence that makes it a very comfy zine to read. (A4-44r)

★★★★★

☐**UNIFIED PROTEST** #3 (2 25¢ stamps from 2502 E. 4th Pl. #34, Vancouver, WA 98661): A real basic zine, with just a bare minimum of contents. Short interviews with Insight and General Concern, zine and record reviews, and some animal rights and peace stuff make up the zine. (S-16)

★★★★★

VICIOUS HIPPIES FROM PANDA HELL #7 (Stamps from Box 115, 2718 SW Kelly #C, Portland, OR 97201): A pretty laid-back music zine focused (though not exclusively) on Pacific Northwest music. Rawheadrex and Uncle Charley are the main names here, along with a pile of zine and record reviews. (D-12t)

★★★★★

VICTORY REVIEW Vol. 15 #1 ($15/yr from PO Box 7515, Bonney Lake, WA 98390): All manner of reviews of and contacts for alternative music in the Pacific Northwest. This issue opens with an article on cowgirl group Ranch Romance and then moves into jazz, folk, Irish, and other sometimes-neglected genres. They feature lots of calendar information for the clubgoer. (S-24t)

★★★★★

VOODOO CHILD #18 ($12/yr from PO Box 374, Des Plaines, IL 60016): The newsletter of the Jimi Hendrix Information Management Institute (otherwise known as JIMI), this one still finds new things to say about the guitar hero even long after his death. The bootleg releases continue, and now there are movies and dramatizations to contend with a well. A catalog of memorabilia and records closes each issue. (S-14t)

★★★★★

☐**WAHOO JESUS** #1 ($1 (?) from 63 1/2 W. Main, Fredonia, NY 14063): A zine of punk music and punk culture. They've got Ace Backwords cartoons, a GG Allin cheerleading section, zine reviews, nasty looking comics, and even a top ten bands section. A bit scattered, to say the least. (S-10)

★★★★★

☐**WAVELENGTH** #110-112 ($2 from PO Box 15667, New Orleans, LA 70175): "New Orleans Music Magazine", it says at the top, and there's substantially more coverage of jazz and related genres here than in most zines I see. #111 is their annual band guide, with short listings of hundreds of local bands as well as associated industry spots like studios and important media contacts. #112 spills the beans on the state's ridiculous regressive amusement tax on live music, and has some material on bands for Mardi Gras. (S-38t)

★★★★★

☐**WEIRGHMFEIGHST** #1 (50¢ & 2 stamps from Shara Whitford, Southern Stations, PO Box 5559, Hattiesburg, MS 39406; after May 14 order from Kevin Callais, 1405 Perrin, Arabi, LA 70032): A short music zine which opens up with a Minutemen interview from a few years back. Mostly they review records, and seem partial to Sub Pop/Dischord/SST type stuff, though there is some variation. They also sneak in a restaurant review. (D-20r)

★★★★★

WHATEVER RAMBLINGS Vol. 1 #4-5 (75¢ and 2 stamps from 5 Greenview Ave., Princeton, NJ 08540): This is basically a music zine, although it does branch off to skateboarding and some of editor Alex's blank-verse ramblings on the world and his mind. There's a chat with Fugazi, some scene photos, and an interview with a rather confused skater in #4. #5 is centered on Alex's trip to London. (S-14)

★★★★★

WIRE Vol. IX #1 ($6.50/6 issues from KCMU, Seattle, WA 98195): This is radio station KCMU's own program guide and review magazine—actually very little of it is devoted to boring programming, and most is articles and reviews. They write of everything from music videos to reggae in Seattle. This issue includes an interview with Blixa from Einsturzende Neubaten. (S-32t)

★★★★★

☐**WM. BREIDING'S HIGHLY ECCENTRIG GUIDE TO THE MUSIC OF THE 80'S** ($2 from William breiding, PO Box 26617, San Francisco, CA 94126): Admitting that his choices are personal and idiosyncratic, Breiding picks 30 albums and reviews them at moderate length, representing stuff he liked from to 80s. I don't think I own even one of the albums he lists, but here's some of the performers: The Unknowns, Mike Oldfield, Kate Bush, Robert Palmer, and The Go-Betweens. There's some essays on music here as well, plus an offer to make tapes for people who are intrigued by his reviews (S-24)

★★★★★

☐**YAK IN A JAR** #1 ($1 (?) from Teri Merbach, 1830 Stevens Ave. S. #109, Minneapolis, MN 55403): A zine formed from the merger of two other zines and focused on local music, alternative and otherwise: The Who to King Snake Roost. They also talk about the Midwest Music Conference and pass on the latest scene gossip. (S-16t)

★★★★★

YOKO ONLY #27 ($9/6 issues from PO Box 20283, Columbus Cir. Sta., New York, NY 10023): A fanzine for Yoko Ono fans. This issue mostly loooks back at the 80s, with quotes and clippings, tracing Yoko's travels from "sorrow to sanity". There are also reports on a current art opening and a movie she recently starred in, and a batch of photos. (S-28t)

★★★★★

ZEEEEEN! #6 (3 IRCs from 84 McCartin St., Leongatha, Victoria, 3953, AUSTRALIA): A fun and friendly little music zine that gives an Aussie view on US bands as well as the native products. There are a whole bunch of short record reviews, some live stuff, comics, film and book notes, and more. This issue features an interview with the Hanshalf Trio, of whom I had never heard before. Includes as an insert the literary and poetry zine **"GET OFF, ANASTASSIA!" SAID MARIA** #2. (A4-20t)

YOU'VE GOT A RIGHT TO ROCK

Thirty-five state legislatures are out to get you! From Arizona to Rhode Island to Florida, politicians are working on laws that will make it almost impossible for you to buy the music you love or attend shows by your favorite bands. You better take them seriously, because they're dead serious about putting your culture in jail.

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DON'T LET THEM TAKE IT AWAY

COMICS
K. LEMMING

☐**ACADEMIA NUTS** #1 (35¢ & a stamp from Tony Collett, Rte. 2 Box 2, Atlanta, IN 46031): A new minicomic with a college setting. In this issue the lead character, Tony, goes to college and meets his roommate, a 60's-nostalgia burnout type. (M-8)

★★★★★

THE ADVENTURES OF DOGMAN #6 (25¢ & a stamp from Torie, 3609 Kent Sr., Mechanicsburg, PA 17055): Well, this one is not becoming any more coherent, but the art and layouts have improved quite a bit. The basic antagonists here are Dogman, the good superhero, and Swordbird, the bad one. But there are people in the middle too, with some sort of strange powers themselves. (D-8)

★★★★★

☐**ALBERT'S EXPERIENCES AT THE LIBRARY** ((50¢ (?) from Michelle Rau, How Do You Spell It Productions, PO Box 3633, Eugene, OR 97403): A small comic about Albert Andreas Armadillo and his love for libraries. It's done on a fairly sweet juvenile level, and although the armadillo isn't exactly the most sophisticated researcher around, his views are sort of cute. (D-8)

★★★★★

THE AMAZING ARNIE #16 ($1 from Tom Ferranti, 8334 Amigo Ave. #14, Northridge, CA 91324): A confusing little comic which takes all of its pages just to get going—the artist has a hard time pinning his characters down and making them work. The art is sort f marginal, but the sense of humor is more than enough to keep this one going. (S-12)

★★★★★

☐**ART THEORY COMICS** (70¢ from Kurt Beaulieu, 4230 Pierre de Coubertin #5, Montreal, QUE, H1V 1A4, CANADA):A short strip poking fun at art movements, art theory, and the art strike. Meaningless pretentious drivel serves to puncture a lot of balloons here, though whether they're stay deflated is anyone's guess. (S-4)

★★★★★

☐**AXE MURDER COMICS** ($1 from Kurt Beaulieu, 4230 Pierre de Coubertin #5, Montreal, QUE, H1V 1A4, CANADA): A French-language comic that is still pretty clear even if the words go right by you; Kurt's near-abstract art strips everything to its essentials. In the back are some series episodes which float free of any plot. (S-8)

★★★★★

BADLY-DRAWN COMIX #2 (65¢ postage from Martha Keavney, 418 Madison St., Hoboken, NJ 07030): I love this, and not because of its artistic quality, that's for sure. Martha has a wonderful playful sense of humor, sometimes busting her characters out of the page, sometimes wandering on to it herself, always confusing cartoon reality with real reality. Really funny stuff. (S-12)

★★★★★

BEHIND THE MASK #3 ($1.25 from Lonepath Ltd., 1076 Curran St., Atlanta, GA 30318): A strange little comical journey with some of the flavor of early issues of **HEAVY METAL**, back when they had SF in them as well as busty women. There are several stories going on at once here, with a sort of classical quest structure and a variety of demons and other action. (D-16)

★★★★★

BEWARE OF THE FUNNY FARM FREAKS #13 ($2 from 2211 Prud'Homme #32, Montreal, QUE, H4A 3H3, CANADA): Really great-looking underground comics. Besides the fabulous artwork, the production is unique. They're silkscreened in multiple colors on to heavy recycled paper stock, making a collector's item of every page, whether it's psychedelic in intent or simply gruesome. The golden era of undergrounds is not yet passed. (D-28)

★★★★★

CAFFIENE ADDICTION #4 ($2 from Scott Williams, 1326 Curtis Ave., Pt. Pleasant, NJ 08742): A comic for those who drink too much coffee, and are inspired to strange visions by it. Scott certainly has his share of strange visions, from a talking turd to an eviscerated back cover. Fine detailed art and all the speed you can drink. (D-20)

★★★★★

CHAOS COMIX #13-14 (25¢ plus postage from Randy, 1162 N. Park, Victoria, BC, V8T 1C8, CANADA): Rude comics with a definite punk rock influence, especially notable in the character of Suicide Al, who seems to lack certain normal social skills. There's an amusing retelling of the three little pigs from a squatting perspective and too many women portrayed as mindless sluts in #13. #14 includes a comic response to a previous **FF** review of their product. (D-20)

★★★★★

CHAPEL ZONE #49-50 ($1 from Doug Chapel Comics, 38 Reservoir St., Holden, MA 01520): This is Doug Chapel's main comic, and a strange one it is. Modern zombies and mutants wander through everyday life, occasionally fighting with the narrator. Included as an insert is **SPUN**, Doug's zine of music reviews. (D-12)

★★★★★

COCKROACH GALLERY (75¢ or trade from Matt Madden, 210 N. State #7, Ann Arbor, MI 48104): A collection of drawings of cockroaches, most done from life without humorous exaggeration. Apparently Matt had a bit of a problem with the little critters, and this is the way he decided to deal with it. Oh, and he called the exterminators too. (D-12)

★★★★★

☐**THE COLLECTED NAUGACOMICS** Vol. 1-2 ($3 from Onward Comics, PO Box 3684, Chico, CA 95927): Edward Lee Bolman produced Naugacomics as a one-off, tucked into correspondence. Now Onward has collected as many of them as they could locate, an incomplete set of #13 to #599, and reprinted them. Bolman is clearly deranged, and often the individual comics make no sense at all. But put together they reveal a nightmare world turned upside down, mythology mixed with modern politics. Bizarre. (HL-68)

★★★★★

COMICS F/X #13 ($2.50 , from 4731 Roosevelt Way NE, Seattle, WA 98105): Not a comic itself but rather a paper all about small press and independent comics. The various writers here review a bunch of stuff, plus they report industry news and do feature articles. #13 includes an interview with Ace Backwords and a few pages on the state of the field in the UK. (T-28r)

★★★★★

COMIC UPDATE #112 ($5/12 issues from William Dockery, 2108 15th Ave, Phenix City, AL 36867): It's hard to keep track of this reviewzine these days, but Dockery is doing it for now. He's got a couple pages of Andrew Roller's brand of libelous news, plus reviews from a few other people including Lynn Hansen. Centered on the somewhat inbred minicomics world. (M-8)

★★★★★

COMIX WAVE #85-86 ($8/12 issues from Clay Geerdes, PO Box 7081, Berkeley, CA 94707): Clay has been writing commentary about underground and alternative comics for a long time now, and he's still going strong. #85 has another look at the current works of Crumb, wondering if he's slipped into self-parody, while #86 touches down on the "popular culture" scam. Clay also has a lot of minicomics for sale, of which you should be able to get a list for an SASE. (S-2t)

★★★★★

☐**CRAZY ADULT #4** ($2.50 from Robert Michael, 46 Barn Rd., Agawam, MA 01001): Wild crazy comics with an artistic style reminscent of RK Sloane or Jeff Gaither: classic underground eyeballs and teeth and gore and such. Visions of God, trips to the amusement park, geeks and clowns, they're all here, in endless puzzling detail. Well done if disturbing. (S-48)

★★★★★

DIRTY PLOTTE Vol. II #3 (50¢ *CASH* from Julie Doucet, CP 553, Succ. C, Montreal, QC, H2L 4K4, CANADA): Julie is still drawing wild little comics with distressing subjects: sex with a giant beer bottle and razor-blade scarification figure prominently in this issue, which includes a minicomic pullout as well. John Porcellino and others also have work included. (D-12 & M-8)

★★★★★

☐**DRAWN & QUARTERLY #1** ($10/4 issues from 95 Bernard St. W, Montreal, Quebec, H2T 2J9, CANADA): A new quarterly of comic strips with an underground influence but nothing too explicit. Joe Matt's tightly-packed stories and Robert Leighton's "Seven Second Stories" brought some chuckles up. Peter Bagge and Dennis Worden also put in appearances, along with a bunch more folks. (S-28)

★★★★★

DUNGAR THE BARBARIAN #34 (60¢ from Dimestore, PO Box 40391, St. Petersburg, FL 33743): One of the longer-running minicomics in existence. It's still having some trouble with light printing, but the art has improved even if there's still the occasional spelling mistake in the speech balloons. Dungar is your typical barbarian adventurer, currently wrapped up in a sea voyage with some other folks. (M-24)

★★★★★

EELSKIN COMIX #13 (50¢ & 2 stamps from 959 harrison St. #88, Seattle, WA 98109): Goofy, sometimes disgusting (like "Mr Boner, Notary Pubic"), sometimes funny, sometimes merely inexplicable comics. I enjoyed the punk rock version of "Peanuts" in this issue, and wondered a lot at the surrealism in one of the other strips. (S-20)

★★★★★

☐**ELECTRIC ARTIFACT** (50¢ & a stamp from Randy Moore, Earth Studio, 601 Feltz, Bldg. H #5, Perryville, MO 63775): This is more of an art portfolio than a comic, but it still seems to fit here among the other visually-oriented zines. Randy has a great style, all stark blacks and hard lines that goes through photocopies really well. The work here is mostly fantastic in nature, and quite enjoyable. (M-8)

★★★★★

☐**EXTREME MAGAZINE #1** ($2 (?) from Tommy Hojager Olesen, Marius Holst Gade 6, 4th, DK 8700 Horsens, DENMARK): A new interview and review magazine centered on the independent art and comics worlds. Mary Fleener and Russell Christian are featured prominently in this first issue, along with reviews of a bunch of European and American works. (A5-12)

★★★★★

FAN'TOONS #32 ($1.50 from Edd Vick, 5014-D Roosevelt Way NE, Seattle, WA 98105): A delightful minicomic collection that always beings out a few chuckles. Edd finds consistently class art and stories; Alan Hunter's "Observations" (with its weird self-referential loop) is the gem of this issue. Red Shetland puts in an appearance as well, with a decapitated Smurf. (M-32)

★★★★★

☐**FASCIST COMIX "TV" and "Cement" issues** ($6/5 issues from Eric Dregni, 1272 Grand, St. Paul, MN 55105): These comics are a mix of new and detourned material, each with a theme. The first takes a look at television's place in the controlled world of today; the second discusses the fascist implications of the rising tide of concrete paving over our cities. A political critique for the artistically minded. (S-16)

★★★★★

FISSION CHICKEN #3-4 ($2.25 from Fantagraphics, 7563 Lake City Way NE, Seattle, WA 98115): The Chicken of Wrath is back, this time ferreting (well, raccooning, actually...) out a plot to turn the entire world into video zombies. Includes some great slams at the video industry and a cliffhanger ending in #3 (satisfactorily resolved in #4), plus of course J.P. Morgan's fantabulous art and wacky humor. #4 is the last issue for now, due to low sales, but back issues remain available. (S-24)

★★★★★

FLOTSAM & JETSON #2 (25¢ & a stamp from Nat Rabb, 612 Wyndhurst Ave., Baltimore, MD 21210): Flotsam is a grody looking garbage critter who happens to be a bounty hunter. Jetson is George Jetson, who happens to be the target. In this issue Flotsam kidnaps Jetson and they drive off in search of further plot complications. (M-8)

★★★★★

☐**THE FOSTER HISTORY OF UNKNOWN COMICS Part 1** ($1 & Age Statement from Jabberwocky Graphix, PO Box 166255, Irving, TX 75016): A bit of a takeoff on the spate of comics histories in recent years. This mini features descriptions of obscure sex comics from the past, together with pictures of some of their covers, usually with buxom women. (M-16)

★★★★★

☐**FROG AND DOG #1** (75¢ from James Gill, 403 E. Call #2, Tallahassee, FL 32301): A rather infuriating minicomic—the plots of the stories here keep twisting back on themselves until nothing makes any sense at all. Even the frog can;t take it in the end, and walks out of the last adventure before he finishes hearing the complex fairy tale from the fish. Nice art. (M-24)

★★★★★

☐**FROM HERE TO EAR** (50¢ (?) from David Elzey, PO Box 11224, Berkeley, CA 94701): A collage of ears and animals, well done, with a message about modern communication embedded in it. At least, I think there's a message, though I get lost looking at the intricate pictures when I should be finding it. (M-8)

★★★★★

FRUIT OF THE TOMB

☐**INSECT COLLECTION** ($5 from Roy Tompkins, PO Box 16022, Austin, TX 78761): A collection of Roy's gruesome distorted and just plain disgusting art, from the pages of his **MIGHTY INSECT** and other zines. Lots of eyeballs and teeth here, plus pus, altered comics characters, and frightening nightmares. Pin-ups for the deranged. (S-60)

★★★★★

☐**THE FUTURE** (50¢ (?) from David Elzey, PO Box 11224, Berkeley, CA 94701): A minicomic with a hypnotic-eyed screamer named Mr. Angry trying to explain some abstruse temporal philosophy. If you want to be assaulted by a character, drop in here. (M-8)

★★★★★

GAMMON, GAMMON #3 ($1 from Jon Lewis, 1420 E. Como Blvd., St. Paul, MN 55117): A collection of comics with a bit of text thrown in as well. The best thing here is the series of Willy the Whale stories—Willy is sort of a shaman in a world where the people don't understand their technology. I think it's great stuff. (D-28)

★★★★★

☐**GENERIC SUPERHERO** ($1 (?) from Shakti Comics, PO Box 656, Hadley, MA 01035): A comic which examines why superheroes do what they do, and involves one in a discussion with an outre psychiatrist type for the edification of the readers. "What's the point?" they ask, making some good points along the way. (M-32)

★★★★★

☐GEON #1 (50¢ (?) from William A. Dockery, 2108 15th Ave., Phenix City, AL 36867): A collaboration between Dockery and Rick Howe, this is a very disjointed story of a man joining a religious group under false pretenses to stay alive. At least I think that's what it's about—there seem to be about ten panels missing for every one drawn, which makes it a trifle hard to follow. (M-8)

★★★★★

☐GLOOM (50¢ from Scott Williams, 1326 Curtis Ave., Pt. Pleasant, NJ 08742): Three words sum this one up pretty well: Life. Is. Pointless. It follows a young dude around from being harassed by cops to a stupid job to endless evenings of trying to deaden his own mind. A horrible vision. (D-8)

★★★★★

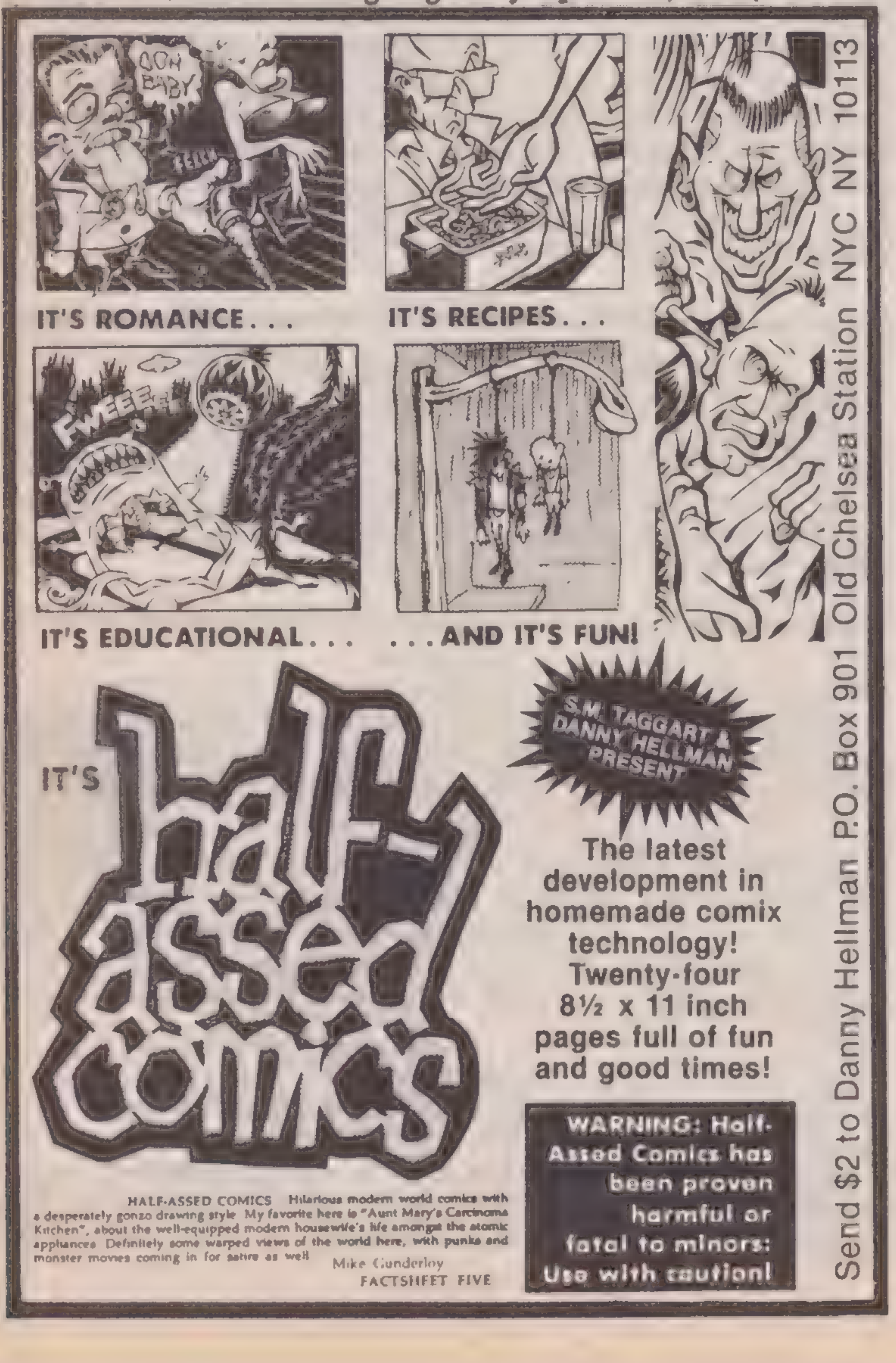
GOOD CLEAN FUN #2 ($1 from Gene Mahoney, 2150 Dwight Way, Berkeley, CA 94704): Gene bills this as "The Elvis of Comic Strips", which is about as strange as the rest of his sense of humor. You've seen his work here in FF, which is about the best recommendation that I can make. (S-4)

★★★★★

GOODIES #67-70 ($1.50 & Age Statement from Jabberwocky Graphix, PO Box 166255, Irving, TX 75016): A regularly-appearing collection of buxom babes in various stages of undress. Some of these pages are pinups, some are actual stories, with artwork ranging from reasonably representational through various comic styles to simply over-endowed. A few nekkid guys sneak in now and then too. #69 includes a porno video review from Brad Foster and more cartoon advice from Guido, this time about making out with older women. (M-20)

★★★★★

☐GRAY LEGACY #0 (75¢ from Fragile Elite Studio, RD 1 Box 115, Graysville, PA 15337): The basic plot here is the familiar one of young love and angst in the university social milieu. Yet, some of the characters are strangely *different*; this university seems to attract aliens or something, though no explicit mention is made of this. Good art, and an intriguing story opener. (HL-12)



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HALF-ASSED COMICS Hilarious modern world comics with a desperately gonzo drawing style My favorite here is "Aunt Mary's Carcinoma Kitchen", about the well-equipped modern housewife's life amongst the atomic appliances Definitely some warped views of the world here, with punks and monster movies coming in for satire as well Mike Gunderloy FACTSHEET FIVE

Send $2 to Danny Hellman P.O. Box 901 Old Chelsea Station NYC NY 10113

★★★★★

☐GREEN COMICS #1 (40¢ from Jon Lewis, 1420 E. Como Blvd., St. Paul, MN 55117): A new minicomic which caused much scratching of heads around here. There are definitely characters (talking animal type) and there may even be a plot—what's missing is sense. On the other hand, nonsense is sometimes quite delicious, which is the case here. Riding lawnmowers to destroy city hall? (M-8)

★★★★★

GRUNT #2 ($2 (?) from PO Box 5782, Springfield, MO 65801): Sex, violence, perversions and more fill this disgusting little book. Mass murder, modern lycanthropy, tortures, blasphemy and bowel movements are all in a day's work for their artists, who depict their subjects with great talent and vigor. For anyone fascinated by the dark side of human nature. (D-48)

★★★★★

HAPPY-PIG FUNNIES #2 ($1.50 from Mark Fischer, Skin Graft Comix, PO Box 738, St. Charles, MO 63302-00738): The first issue of this mini, now with wonderful full-color covers, featured starvation and copraphagy; this one tops that with the story of a man and his (very dead) dog, as well as the off hit and run or two. Pretty sordid stuff, but really well-executed. (M-12)

★★★★★

☐HEALTH #2 ($1.50 from 207 Ave. B #2A, New York, NY 10009): A strange comic of threatening homeless people on the bus, punk rockers moshing and fighting, derelicts in alleyways and elsewhere—overall, a dark and depressing vision of the human condition. But the art is very clean and well-done, and somehow this is chillingly interesting. (HL-24)

★★★★★

☐HEN JUDGE (30¢ postage from Maga, PO Box 6704, Stn. A, Toronto, ONT M5W 1X5, CANADA): A rather surreal publication featuring a judge, a bunch of hats, and some chickens. Unfortunately for those of us wedded to linear thinking, the speech balloons and narrative seem constructed more for rhythm than sense: "Wet...ugh A other men" says one character. (M-8)

★★★★★

☐HINAMI ($1.50 & Age Statement from Jabberwocky Graphix, PO Box 166255, Irving, TX 75016): A portfolio of drawings by Bob Lee of a rather well-built young woman in a lot of poses of solitary sexual pleasure and display. Lots of stark blacks and whites here and an economy of shading that works pretty well. (M-16)

★★★★★

HOMO PATROL ($4 from Tom Roberts, 333 S. East Ave., Oak Park, IL 60302): A collection of the on-page comics that have been running all over the small press for the past couple of years—at last all 64 episodes in one place. The basic premise is that of a future society where special cops are charged with rounding up homosexuals, but artists Tom and Ken Roberts say that the series is not purposely pro- or anti-gay, but rather an exploration of bigotry. I think they're right, though with a subject this explosive most readers will read their own prejudices in. (S-64)

★★★★★

JEREMY BLEVANS, THIS IS YOUR LIFE ($2 from Barry Deutsch, 2809 Astoria Blvd. #2D, Astoria, NY 11102): A wildly confusing comic that follows Jeremy back and forth across time from childhood to adulthood, tracing the roots of his terror of the world. A kid-sized doll and a school bully play important roles here, though after several readings I'm still not sure what's going on. Nicely done, though, with just the right dreamy quality to it. (S-30)

★★★★★

☐JOHN RUNNINGS ATTACKS NORTHGATE $1 (?) from Sean Taeschner, 4337 Evanston Ave. N, Seattle, WA 98103): A public-service comic, dedicated to exposing one small bit of injustice. John Runnings is challenging the policy of Seattle's Northgate Mall which forbids handing out flyers. Naturally, he's been busted for this, but he won't stop. Civil disobedience in picture form. (S-10)

★★★★★

KARKUS PRESENTS #2 (25¢ & a stamp from K.D. Schmitz, RD 4 Box 217, Pleasant Valley, NY 12569): A pun-ridden minicomic that combines the plots of The Beverly Hillbillies and Mr. Ed with a childish drawing style and a lot of bad jokes. You'll laugh if you can stop groaning. (M-8)

★★★★★

KARPET KING #2 (50¢ from Rick Howe, 1524-D 2nd Ave., Columbus, GA 31901): It is a measure of the care with which this comic is produced that the lead character's name is spelled differently in the story and on the cover. "Story" may be too strong a word, as there is little more here than a collection of panels hinting at some strong off-page action. (M-8)

★★★★★

KING-CAT COMICS AND STORIES #11-13 (35¢ & a stamp from John Porcellino, 1954 Brookside Ln., Hoffman Estates, IL 60194): The first two of these issues are cute little primitive comics, concerned with mice and dreams and other things. But the third is the best, a transcription of the comment book from a controversial art exhibit John did, proving that many people are not willing to try to learn new ways to look at art. (D-16)

★★★★★

KROOD #2 ($4 from Russell Christian, 137 Washington Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11205): Strange deranged drawings from Russell and other artists. This is a world of distorted anatomy, aggressive drunks, hopeless people, and other underbellies. With a color photocopy section on the cover and some mildly psychotic travel commentary, it's an artful production. (S-28)

★★★★★

($1 from How Do You Spell It Productions, PO Box 3633, Eugene, OR 97403)_:A feminist lesbian comic with a mix of cartoons, drawings, and collages, plus bits of text and zine reviews. I enjoyed the serious analysis of the five-line poem, Nola Frame-Gray's drawings, and the super-serious separatist cartoon from Gail Elber. (HL-16)

★★★★★

□**THE LAST DINER** ($1 from Paul C. Tumey, 21 Cotton St., Leominster, MA 01453): A collection of short comics from Paul, including one about a diner. The other major pieces feature a blues song and (my favorite) a virtual reality within a virtual reality within...a strange loop indeed. (M-24)

★★★★★

□**A LEG WITHOUT A BRAIN #1** (25¢ from Arnie Comics, 8334 Amigo Ave. #14, Northridge, CA 91324): A minicomic featuring a leg, a brain (who moves around separately and wears dark glasses) and another leg, who for some reason wants the first leg to give her an egg. As strange as it sounds. (M-8)

★★★★★

LYDIA'S SMALL PRESS REVIEW #1 (50¢ from Lydia Brooks, 11439A Ptarmigan Dr., Austin, TX 78758): That's "small press" as in comics, of course, not literary. Lydia reviews mostly minicomics, and isn't afraid to toss out bricks as well as priase. I think she's a fair but tough reviewer, with a good eye for what makes the combination of story and art work. (S-4)

★★★★★

MADNESS BY MAIL! #3 ($1.25 from Caleb Hammond, 26 Pleasant Ave., Barre, MA 01005): A small comics zine that's branching out in a lot of directions: RPG reviews, comic reviews, letters, news, music. Much of the art is still sort of marginal, though Mark Fosmire's work shows promise. (D-28)

★★★★★

□**THE MALTESE ELVIS** (25¢ & a stamp from Paul C. Tumey, 21 Cotton St., Leominster, MA 01453): A cute little minicomic parody of (of course) **THE MALTESE FALCON**. The plot twists here make nearly as much sense (well, except for the flash flood) as those in the original. And the art is good too. I'd like to see this as a full-size comic. (M-12)

★★★★★

MANDRAGOORA #6 ($2 postpaid from Marcel Ruijters, P. Jacobsstr. 6, 6133 Am Sittard, NETHERLANDS): A collection of underground art and comics, together with just a wee bit of text (which is just as well since I can't read it). The zine takes a sort of "art gallery" approach, with a few strips and a lot of bizarre drawings in a variety of styles. Quite interesting to stare at; the pictures here are rich in detail. (A5-40)

★★★★★

□**THE MAP** (25¢ & a stamp from Paul Tumey, 21 Cotton St., Leominster, MA 01453): A self-contained minicomic with a lot that reminds me a bit of Edgar Allen Poe. The map comes about as the result of a drunken bar bet, and yet in the end it provides its new owner with no guidance at all. (M-8)

★★★★★

□**MAXWELL MADD AND HIS WRESTLING WOMEN #1** ($2.75 from Outside Comics, PO Box 533401, Orlando, FL 32853): Madd is an annoying cuss of a klutz, and the wrestling women are well-stacked young ladies who can throw a bad guy across the room without working up a sweat. Unfortunately the story is leading up to having them battle vampires and zombies, who may not be such a pushover. Visual T&A with some plot. (S-28)

★★★★★

MEAN STREETS #2 1/2 (10¢ & a stamp from Concrete Caverns Graphix, 70A Greenwich Ave., New York, NY 10011): Mostly this is an announcement of future plans for CCG, with a price list for all their comics in print and notes on what is coming soon. They also print letters arguing comics theory, and a batch of "current five" lists of what people are reading. (D-8t)

★★★★★

MISC! #33 ($1.50 & 45¢ postage from Randy Paske, 4841 Birch Ln., Gilbert, MN 55741-9631): A great-looking minicomics anthology. In this issue editors Bob Pfeffer and Randy Paske go to the summer movies. Later on there's work from David Lee Ingersoll and Matt Feazell, both prime minicomic workers. Fat and fun. (M-40)

★★★★★

□**MISTER 'E' COMICS #1** ($2 from N. B. Shifferly, 276 W. 3rd St., Mansfield, OH 44902): Written and drawn by R. Dean, this one follows the crew of an interstellar exploration to their unusual end. It's a bit silly, and the art is only marginal, but I was amused. (S-6)

★★★★★

MOLESTER'S RIGHTS

FINE ART COMICS #7-10 ($1 from Andrew Roller, PO Box 221295, Sacramento, CA 95822): Roller writes that he tries to get something about child molesters in every issue, so this is how he wants to be listed. That aside, #7 is mostly in-jokes from the independent comics community, with Roller going after Liam Brooks in this issue with a giant dinosaur that eats basketball memorabilia. #8 largely features Chester, a brat who constantly disrupts his school. There's also comic reviews tucked here and there. (S-10)

★★★★★

□**MOTORCHILD** Vol. 1 #1-2 (1 stamp from MPO Box 67, Oberlin, OH 44074-0067): A random comic—by which Tim Paxton means that he makes it up as he goes along. The first issue introduces a couple of reptilian characters, though whether they'll stay is anyone's guess. At least the turtle is back in #2, which may be a good sign. (D-8)

★★★★★

MUMBLES #7 ($3 from John Eberly, PO Box 8312, Wichita, KS 67208): A collection of John's "Horrible Puns and Overworked Cliches", including my favorite, the Embarassing Moles, who appeared in **FF** some time back. This little collection has color photocopy covers wrapped around a lot of very low humor. (M-40)

★★★★★

NEALSTUFF #2 ($2.30 from PO Box 36, Libertyville, IL 60048): A collection of drawings, skietches, comics and the occasional short story. Much of this has a surreal or unfinished look, as though Neal's head were constantly bursting with more ideas than his hand could draw. Ranges from commentary on the punk scene to strange little bar-hopping animals. (S-30)

★★★★★

NEW KOMICS #7 ($1 from Matt hew Mikas, PO Box 48182, St. Petersburg, FL 33743-8182): A collection of comics ranging from the wordless and wonderful Equibus through Philosophy Mous to the Sesame Stree drop-out Bad Bird. There's some collage stuff and sheer perplexification thrown in as well. (S-36)

★★★★★

□**NINJA BUSBOY #1-2** (35¢ & a stamp from Tony Collett, Rte. 2 Box 2, Atlanta, IN 46031): A cute minicomic featuring a ninja who comes from Japan to star in a comic but finds that there are no job openings. So he becomes a busboy instead, which allows Tony plenty of room t o poke fun at the genre. I like it. (M-8)

★★★★★

☐**NOT ETERNAL #1-4** (25¢ & a stamp from Jeff Zenick, 690 Industrial, Tallahassee, FL 32310): Verses of Lao Tsu'z **TAO TE CHING**, illustrated with pulsating mandalas. The first issue also includes some other comics, with a hippie feel to it. Also available for the same price is **THE GREAT IMPOSSIBLE?**, which does the same for Mahatma Gandhi. (M-8)

★★★★★

OTHER PEOPLE #1 (50¢ from Jabberwocky Graphix, PO Box 166255, Irving, TX 75016): A collection of portraits by Jabberwocky editor Brad Foster. The title says "people" but the drawings say "extraterrestrial", as there are all manner of tentacles, feathers and other strange anatomical features involved. (M-8)

★★★★★

PLASMA #2($1 (?) from Per Jambeck, PO Box 451, Ridgefield, CT 06877): Future techno covert action comics, with the CIA, reality simulators, deadly computer programs, mysterious cabals, and more. The art is still a bit rough, but the plotting keeps it interesting. Includes a few pages of music reviews in comic form. (D-24)

★★★★★

POSTMORTEM FUNNIES #3 ($1 from Dave Matthews, 226 Columbia Dr, Aliquippa, PA 15001): Comics of alienation and everyday life. There's this quality control inspector who shows up on the bottom of the page to explain things you don't get. Above there are cruel children, nasty dogs, and boring comics writers. (D-8)

★★★★★

☐**RADNOR WENTWORTH'S THEORY OF FRIENDSHIP** ($1 from Lawrence San, PO Box 2000, Brookline, MA 02146): Lawrence does classy minicomics, and this is no exception. Wentworth is this guy in a suit of armor who has trouble keeping friends, despite his computer programming skills and phenomenal intelligence. He comes to some conclusions about this here, but the self-knowledge doesn;t seem to get him far. (M-16t)

★★★★★

☐**RALSTON THE GOOSE #1-3** ($2 from Tyrone McCloskey, PO Box 210107, San Francisco, CA 94121-0107): Confusing comics with great art that mutates from pure psychedelic to something like Disney on speed, hopped up and vicious. All manner of characters parade through situations involving sex and violence but not much coherent plot. Plenty of detail to puzzle over. (HL-15)

★★★★★

REBEL GRAPHICS #3 ($3 from PO Box 1260, Youngstown, OH 44501): A collection of comic strips from Chris Yambar, the man behind Manna Underground Press. Mostly this is cute superhero stuff, but for those historically inclined, it includes some stuff from his early school years. My copy came packaged with some of Chris's evangelical Christian essays. (T-20)

★★★★★

RICKEY RAT COMICS #6 ($1 from C.C. Cilla, PO Box 41302, Tucson, AZ 85717-1302): This one is a continuing saga drawn by a bunch of different cartoonists. As a result new characters pop in and out and the style and even plot change radically from page to page. Most of this issue revolves around a visit to town by legendary performer PiPi Rat, who picks his nose on stage and tries to blow himself up in concert. (D-32)

★★★★★

☐**ROCKHEADS #1-2** (35¢ & a stamp from Tony Collett, Rte. 2 Box 2, Atlanta, IN 46031): A minicomic starring a struggling rock band. In #2 they try to raise some money for Christmas, but their skills are not quite up to it. Pretty primitive art. (M-8)

★★★★★

ROUGH & TUMBLE #2 ($1 & a stamp from Neil Schmidt, RD9 Box 9S, Bridgeton, NJ 08302): A collection of short comic stories, all revolving around eating meat and what a revolting, barbaric process it is. The truth behind hot dogs and chicken dinners, fur coat follies, and escaping hogs all put in an appearance here. (D-16)

★★★★★

SCRUT (50¢ (?) from Neal, PO Box 36, Libertyville, IL 60048): A one-shot minicomic from the creator of **NEALSTUFF**. This one actually seems to have a plot, featuring a charming little horned lizard in search of the secret of swimming in his jaunts through dreamland. (M-12)

★★★★★

SELF PUBLISHER! Vol. 2 #1 (75¢ from Ian Shires, PO Box 40391, St. Petersburg, FL 33743-0391): Looks like this comics newszine is still growing. Ian has switched to newsprint for this issue, which is usually a good sign. He chats about very small press comics, reviews a bunch of them, rags on other reviewzines and talks back to letters. A bit annoying at times, but that may just be a personality clash between Ian and myself. (HL-24)

★★★★★

☐**THE SHAGGS TRIBUTE BOOK** ($1 from Dave Mitchell, PO Box 5094, Winter Park, FL 32793-5094): A strange story with rather primitive art, concerning three young women, their psychiatrist, a severed foot, and rock music. Must have taken a pretty scrambled brain to come up with this one. (S-16)

★★★★★

☐**SHITBOY COMICS #1** ($1 from RFD 1 Box 350, Coopers Mills, ME 04341): Rather confusing and scraggily drawn comics featuring a rock group, the need to clean up at the demands of the landlord, and an escaping cat. Later on there's a few pages of random pointless violence. It all closes with a funny-but-sad Andy Rooney speech. (HL-16)

★★★★★

SLAP-HAPPY COMICS #3-4 (25¢ from C.C. Cilla, PO Box 41302, Tucson, AZ 85717-1302): Minicomics with a bunch of different stuff in each one, none of it real chewy. There's a stick figure and an Archie take-off and various visual non sequitirs. Who knows? (M-8)

★★★★★

☐**SLOW-PED #1** (75¢ from Jason Klawon, 34 Spruce St., Jamestown, NY 14701): Drug-addled (well, I can't be sure—addled by *something*) comics "for juvenile delinquents". There are several strips here, featuring gore, psychedelic distortions, punkers, Krazy Kat minimalism, and other outre devices. (S-14)

★★★★★

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Sample issue: $1.00 Age statement required (Sorry, kiddies!)

□**SLUG AND BAIT!** #2 (25¢ & a stamp from 825 Lynn Dr., Lexington, KY 40504): Crazy cubist modern animal comics, with a trip to a hard bar in the main story here. The backup explains to parents how to tell if their kid has been skateboarding (horrors!) (M-12)

★★★★★

□**SMARMY FUNNIES** #1 (50¢ from C.C. Cilla, PO Box 41302, Tucson, AZ 85717-1302): If it were summer I'd say that most of the Arizonans with work in this collection had stayed out in the sun too long. Stream of consciousness is the rule here, with occasional peaks of brilliance, as in the arsonist story "Anatoly's Garden Stories". (D-12)

★★★★★

□**SPINAL CORD COMICS** #1 ($1.99 from Sal Robert Pauciello, 9 Stanley St., Irvington, NJ 07111): A somewhat primitive comic of space aliens, worlds within worlds, and cosmic confusion. Much of Pauciello's work is wordless, and tends to flow from one concept to the next without making anything too explicit. Certainly not your average action comic. (S-20)

★★★★★

ST. JUDE'S GYPSY WISEASS CHURCH #6 ($1 & a stamp from PO Box 1622, Lawrence, KS 66044): A collection of strange comics and the occasional bit of writing, like the somewhat blasphemous explanation of the zine's name in this issue. Lots of distorted bodies, strange workplaces, and a distinct lack of coherent plots mark the comics here. (D-36)

★★★★★

□**STRANGE IDYLLS** ($1 from Jim Gill, 403 E. Call #2, Tallahassee, FL 32301): A collection of comic short stories, heavy on humor, avoiding the sex and gore of most comics. The first story, "Oodles of Troodles", is my favorite, featuring the upsetting of the balance of nature on a planet far far away. All work is by Jim Gill and Byron Marshall. (D-24)

★★★★★

STUFF #19 ($1.50 from Jabberwocky Graphix, PO Box 166255, Irving, TX 75016): The final issue of **STUFF** on a bimonthly schedule, though editor Brad Foster promises more someday. Meanwhile you can still get this cheery collection of strange and off-the-wall comics, from the zoned-out shopping zombie on the cover to Steve Willis's anti-veggie slam inside. (M-20t)

★★★★★

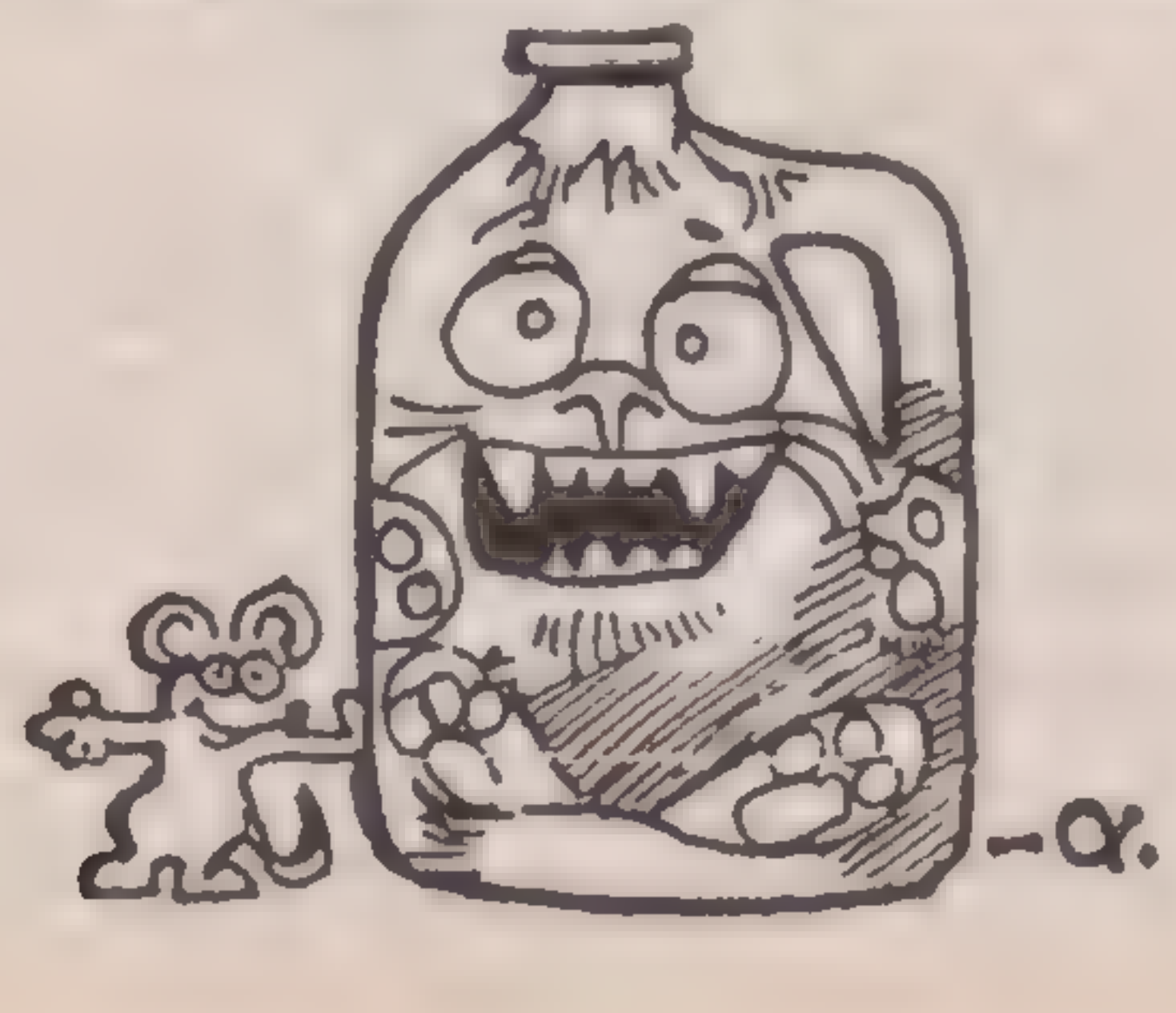
□**SURREAL WESTERN COMICS** #1 ($1 & Age Statement from Mack White, PO Box 49575, Austin, TX 78765): A strange tale of a cowpoke, a ventriloquist, and a beautiful, dangerous young lady who turns men into cacti. Each copy includes a couple of western trading cards, mostly with pictures of dead outlaws. A right nice set of wild pictures, with a amusingly risque ending. (D-8)

★★★★★

TALES OF FANTASY #6 ($1.25 from Larry Johnson, 9 St. Peter St., Jamaica Plain, MA 02130): In this rather confusing comic, an ordinary-seeming dude named Lew Brown wanders into fortune-teller Madame Boogala's shop...and is suddenly involved in a wild battle between superhuman beings. Fast-paced and with a surprise twist in the end. (D-24)

★★★★★

TETRAGRAMMATON FRAGMENTS! #115 ($1.75 from Steve Keeter, 513 N. Summerlin Ave., Orlando, FL 32803): This is the official publication of the United Fandom Organization. a group of independent comics folks who have banded together to promote one another's books. This being the annual all-comics issue, it shows off some of their talents well. I especially liked Larry Blake's quick Nightstar story and Doug Holverson's overblown Miss Perstroika. (D-30)



★★★★★

THE TRI-MEN #2 (75¢ from Chris Arnold, 4706 Mink St. SW, Pataskala, OH 43062): The second part of a superhero origin story., Chris has certainly got me sucked in, first with the baffling opening and now with the strange dawning of powers in three previously ordinary guys. And it looks like global geopolitics may be coming into play. Stay tuned for action. (D-16)

★★★★★

□**THROKK** #9-11 (75¢ from Matt Broersma, 222 Harrison Ave., San Antonio, TX 78209): Throkk is a barbarian, with long greasy heair and a sword, who wanders about a fantasy world having adventures. It's all somewhat tongue in cheek, and the stories flow well and keep the chuckles coming. I like Throkk. (M-12)

★★★★★

TICOUNE ZE WHIZ TORNADO #3 ($3 *CASH* from Editions de Phylactere inc., 1576 boul. St-Joseph #2, Montreal, QUE, H2J 1M7, CANADA): Ticoune is sort of a chubby kid who also happens to be a superhero—or at least that's my interpretation of this almost-Cubist French-language comic. In this issue he spends most of his pages battling a rather large and nasty-looking dinosaur. (D-48)

★★★★★

□**TWISTED IMAGE** ($1 from Brave New Words, PO Box 20421, Providence, RI 02920): A collection of short comics by Ace Backwords, who is also getting 90% of the profits from the book. If you've been paying attention, you've seen his strips in **FF**. If not, you may be amused by his ruthless fun-poking at relationships, politics, and music. (M-16)

★★★★★

TWISTED IMAGE NEWSLETTER Feb.-Mar. 1990 ($1 from Ace Backwords, 1630 University Ave. #26, Berkeley, CA 94703): This is Ace's own collection of his new work, issued each month. Besides the comics themselves, it has letters, reprints of his MRR columns, and of course shameless plugs. Funny but politically incorrect in spots—proudly so, I would say. (S-8)

★★★★★

UNSCENE COMIX #14-15 (50¢ from Wall-ter, PO Box 501, Lebanon, KY 40033): Gory comics, strange poetry, and fanzine reviews come together here to form a strange reading experience. Wall-ter has a sick sense of humor which overpowers his drawing skill but will still attract people who like the underbelly. (D-8)

★★★★★

UPDATE #111 (50¢ from William Dockery, 2108 15th Ave., Phenix City, AL 36867): A title founded by Andrew Roller which has passed through several hands since. Now Dockery is coordinating it, with essays and reviews from Rick Howe, Lynn Hansen, and Mike Taylor. (M-8r)

★★★★★

VISION #5 ($1.50 from Parsonavich, 2262 Eastern Ave., Arcata, CA 95521): A somewhat disjointed minicomic—or at least it seems that way since there's nothing to tell you when one joke ends and another begins. The style is rather dark, all sketchy shadings, and there's everything from slice of life to gallows humor here. I enjoyed it. (M-40)

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Poetry reviews are by PJ Bellomo (pj) and the Æditor (MG).

ALPHA BEAT SOUP 6 ($3 from 5110, rue Adam, Montreal, P.Q. H1V 1W8 Canada): For those who can sleep thru thunder, this zine pays tribute to "beat" writings. Reprints of some big names in this issue, though I would point to less familiar names: see Charles Plymell's "The Shoe Store Man" and Arlene Mandell's "Supermarket '88."(HL-78)(pj)

★★★★★

ANCIENT NIGHTS ($3 from Ralph Vaughan, 353 Oxford St, Chula Vista, CA 92011): Short fiction and poems whose themes are rooted in ancient myths of sirens and lost cities. The works vary in caliber, but most do nothing original when they delve back in time. Not surprisingly, John Grey's short poem stands-out. (D-40)(pj)

★★★★★

BACKGROUNDS Vol. 1 #1 ($3 from 3909 Michigan Union, An Arbor, MI 48104): The 1st issue of a new poetry journal w/vague roots in the Univ of Mich, scheduled to be published thrice yearly. The call is for works by persons of "color" (no, I don't know what that means, and no, they didn't say anything about author's sending photos). Despite the convoluted charter, there's some work that gets straight to the point; check out Indigo, "Sweet Sixteen (she walks/she talks)" in particular. (D-62t)(pj)

★★★★★

BELLOWING ARK Vol. 6 #1 ($2 from PO Box 45637, Seattle WA 98145): Literary tabloid with poems, plays, short stories, and currently a rather lively Letters section (debate about demagoguery and such). Each time I struggle, deciding which piece to showcase: let's weasel-out and say that there's another great selection of work and fine editing. (T-24)(pj)

★★★★★

John M. Bennett, **TOMBESENCE** (15¢ & a stamp from Geof Huth, 225 State St. #451, Schenectady, NY 12305): A single poem of Bennett's on a business-card-sized bit of manila stock. Bennett is as odd as ever. If you had a stack of these to hand out on the street you could really confuse a lot of people. (MM-2)(MG)

★★★★★

BLANCO ($5 from Rattlehead Press, PO Box 49575, Austin TX 78765): Assorted poems by M. White, B. Richardson, D. Schnaufer, & J. Bentley. Each author's work appears on a different colored page, which means one can leaf thru the similar colors for artistic continuity. There's a poem on every right-hand page and a fine pencil sketch on the left-hand page, with no religious symbolism apparent. Sorry guys, but the drawings blew-away the poems—so good that they alone make the purchase worthwhile. (S-44)(pj)

★★★★★

D. Blood, **THIS CAREFUL BALANCE** ($2 from D. Blood, 3410 W 1st St, Riverside, CA 92501): Dark, melancholy poems. Death, sadness, penned-in by hand and photocopied. Expected to hate so much drivel, but one dart snuck thru when I wasn't looking. Mostly work of this nature: "I've grown up/and I am not a boy/I feel no pain/and I feel no joy." Must have been a weak moment. (D-24)(pj)

★★★★★

D. Blood, **VICTORIAN GRAVEYARD** ($2 from D. Blood, 3410 W 1st St, Riverside, CA 92501): A friend describes much of modern verse as "bleeding out loud." This chapbook is a pitiful and exaggerated case. Though sad again, the author finds hope in stumbling odes to the christian headman. Western scrap. (D-16)(pj)

★★★★★

BOGG 62 ($4 from John Elsberg, 422 N. Cleveland St, Arlington, VA 22201): Poetry journal publishing mostly British and American authors. There's also reviews, essays, editorials, and an energetic sample of feedback letters. The short work in this issue stands-out: Paul Dilsaver's "The Fat Life" talks of the distortion of a tattoo pounds later. L. Horvath and B. Solarczyk likewise deliver quick punches. (D-64t)(pj)

★★★★★

BOHEMIAN UPCHUCK ($2 from Bob Z c/o Sarris BkMktg, 125 E 23rd St, #300, NY, NY 10010): A random publication from Bad Newz, presented in the familiar b & w photocopied, graphic-laden mini format. There's considerable anger, such as Bob Z's "That Stupid Fucker Didn't Care" and James Boyd's "The White House Is An Outhouse." (JB's doing a supreme insult to the harmonious act of shitting...) No unforgettable work, but then I don't think that's the point. (M-32)(pj)

★★★★★

BONESAUCE 11 (50¢ from Peter Mantis, 1 Stonewall, Memphis, TN 38104): The editor laments that this is the final issue, at least for a while. BONE goes out with a bang: Oberc, Crews, NL Edwards, Neubauer, W. Phillips, etc. Must be some burn-out though, only the cover was highlighted this time. A definite for those who've enjoyed previous issues and for those who've wondered. (D-16)(pj)

★★★★★

Dennis W. Brezina, **THROUGH THE SEASONS: A BACKYARD ODYSSEY** ($1 from PO Box 411, Churchton, MD 20733): A cycle of poems, one for each month, which demonstrate Dennis's strong connections with the Earth where he lives; each one is a vignette of some happening on the property, from a toad being swallowed by a snake to a falling berry. A fast-forward along the wheel of the year. (D-16)(MG)

★★★★★

Les Bridges, **CUTTING IT CLOSE** ($3 from Lyndawn, Inc, 127 4th Ave, Suite 4B, NY, NY 10003): Immediate presence of voice. Succinct, usually flowing, frequently dangerous. Bridges and his work are meddling hostages to the city: "...he thrusts dirty paper cup/at me, I don't hesitate,/feed it a few silver coins./Pay ransom one more time for/living in New York." (D-24)(pj)

★★★★★

BRIEF #6 ($2 (?) from Jim Hydock, PO Box 33, Canyon, CA 94516): A collection of poetry that depends very much on the arrangement of words on the page, and on the reader's patience to sort out imagery that has been carefully enwrapped. The styles vary from Gerald Burns' dense pages to the light and airy structures of Robert Fitterman. (D-24t)(MG)

★★★★★

Alan Catlin, **A GHOST STORY** ($4 from 143 Furman St, Schenectady, NY 12304): Chapbook of poems about a single subject—a not so ordinary mother who resides in a state institution when she reaches elder years. A story is told through this poetry; one where love goes senile, clumsy, and perhaps dangerous...the son is pained by the thought of a "home." This time it isn't the verse that's gripping, but the reality of the story instead. (D-40)(pj)

★★★★★

Doru Chirode, **ALETHEIA RAPED** (? from Runaway Spoon Press, PO Box 3621, Port Charlotte, Florida 33949): The author, a refugee of communist Romania, has written in a few different languages, his poetry finally settling into English. The works in this chapbook are short, complex mysteries, such as the closing of "hex": "seeking prurient seiche deep in bane/entering adytum first/braking any one vitreous cavity/barely unnamed." (M-32)(pj)

★★★★★

Joie Cook, **ACTS OF SUBMISSION** ($3 from Manic D Press, PO Box 410804, San Francisco, CA 94141): A chapbook of rather downer poems, dealing in questions of privilege and hopelessness, looking at life from above and below. Cook's poetic voice is a resigned, almost nihilistic one, ready to go abandon the world on a schooner full of drugs. (D-28t)(MG)

★★★★★

THE COVENTRY READER Vol. II, #IV ($5/4 issues from 727 East Main St, Columbus, OH 43205-1746): A poetry tabloid with support from area businesses (surprising number of ads). There's a comfortable feel to this, perhaps it's the layout—the scattered graphics and photos. The poems oscillate between boring and intriguing. Daniel Gallik's "Among the Rocks on the Shore" is a powerful, moving tale of an aids suicide (so good that publisher's w/such concerns should go after a reprint). Rebecca Hippert delivers warmly w/"Defining Love." (T-20)(pj)

★★★★★

CREDENZA Poetry Issue ($8/4 issues from 743 Goodrich, St. Paul, MN 55105): A collection of poetry plus a few other things, like Bob Black definitions of modern words and a short story. But mostly this is poems, including an entire chapbook by Paul Weinman that's not White Boy stuff and a strong entry from Carol Schneck. (S-36)(MG)

★★★★★

DAISY CHAINS OF FREEDOM #1 (On request from Jesus Freaks Ink, 2975 Via Vela, Camarillo, CA 93010): A poetry zine from some of the young Christian underground folks out there. There's a variety of work here, some quite touching, as with Jason Underground's plaint about not being able to live up to his own ideas. Some moralizing, if that turns you off. (D-16)(MG)

★★★★★

John Darcy, **HOUDINI'S MONEY** ($6 from PO Box 453, Hughsonville, NY 12537): This is a booklet of song lyrics, but devoid of the music I guess this is the place to mention them. Darcy writes/sings mainly of classic themes, boys and girls and wonders for the future. I thought the strongest piece here was "When I Punch out" a rather sad story of someone whom life has passed by. (D-30t)

★★★★★

Ken DiMaggio, **JOHNNY** ($1 from Steve Hartman, 1610 Avenue P Apt 6-B, Brooklyn, NY 11229): Ken is working on a new novel, and this flyer contains portions of chapters 1-4. Johnny and his parents are ridiculous stereotypes, reminiscent, in ways, of those wives in Stepford. Dad likes sports; Mom smiles often and consumes much prescribed medicine. They get Johnny a therapist. DiMaggio's style is extraordinarily simplistic, and it's a little too early to tell where this will lead as a whole. (HS-8)(pj)

★★★★★

C. Dorn (ed.), **CROAK: POWUMS FRUM THE SWOMP UV LIFE** ($2.50 from Wright * Good, PO Box 423, Yellow Springs, OH 45387): As the title might warn you, this collection is printed in a somewhat idiosyncratic simplified spelling, clear enough to read but jarring nonetheless (rules available separately for 75¢). The verse tends to seem more like doggerel with the changed visual flow, and the subjects—fog, moons, cats—are not exactly earthshaking either. Very different, and one to turn over in your mind. (D-12t)(MG)

★★★★★

DREAMING UNDER THE GUN (75¢ from Matt Broersma, 222 Harrison Ave., San Antonio, TX 78209): A short mini of poetry, with the featured piece being a gentle longpoem from Liam Brooks. In fact all the poets here may also be cartoonists, with Mick Cusimano's bit of doggerel "Definition of a Dinosaur" being light but fun. (M-8t)(MG)

★★★★★

John Eberly, **AT THE STILL CENTER** ($2 from Mumbles Publications, PO Box 8312, Wichita, KS 67208): Short poems that run together thematically; in fact, this might be considered just one poem by the author. There's a vague notion about finding god in love or in the ecstatic body: "between us/a perfect center/meets/together/we make love/our God." All spirituality aside, this was tedious. I think it was the conspicuous absence of perspiration. (M-12)(pj)

★★★★★

Joey Esparza, **LITTLE BOY DREAMS** ($2 from D. Blood, 3410 W 1st St, Riverside, CA 92501): There might be something constructive to be made of the concept in the title, but this little boy language doesn't do it. These poems transmit as one continuous whine: not funny, just annoying, and not even in a remotely artistic way. A complete adolescent flop. (D-16)(pj)

★★★★★

FIELD MICE ($1 from Jeff Copenhagen, 407 N. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach, FL 33444): Eleven short poems, many untitled. There's a certain fascination with blood and suicide that comes out as nervous writing about the subject as well as the nifty "Florida Isn't So Bad" which starts out "many changes of afddress led to this/tropic ceiling fan dripping rain/on palm fronds outside my window" that almost sings with the beat of the fan. (S-11)(MG)

★★★★★

FIRST AMENDMENT REPAIR KIT ($1 from Smiling Dog Press, PO Box 271, Honor, MI 49640): This one has five poems printed on fine cardstock, each addressing the problem of flag-burning from the point of view of free speech. It also comes with a sticker saying "Blind Patriotism is Dangerous"" and a carstock flag with a match attached. (D-5)(MG)

★★★★★

□**FOCUSING IN ON THE MAN IN THE MOON** #1-2 ($1 (?) from Sal Robert Pauciello, 9 Stanley St., Irvington, NJ 07111): "An newsletter of interactive expression", the first issue is almost all poetry with the exception of a calendar headed by one of Sal's drawings. Nothing really stands out in the initial offerings, except perhaps Franco Bondanno's crude doggerel. #2 branches out to include music and book reviews and a bunch of drawings. (S-7)(MG)

★★★★★

Andrew Gettler, **ZEN & THE ART OF PERFECT DESIRE** ($2.50 from 2663 Heath Ave 6D, Bronx, NY 10463): The desire is listless lust, and the sex is mundane art, if we must call it art. A chapbook of poems about man & women and various body parts and emotions served-up like five & dime commodities. All in all, the work is disappointing, especially when accompanied by such a presumptuous title. (D-32)(pj)

★★★★★

HAIKU CANADA NEWSLETTER Vol. V, #1-2 ($5 from Dorothy Howard, 67 Court St, Aylmer, Quebec, Canada J9H 4M1): This newsletter is produced journal-style. It's comprised of announcements, addresses, etc. but the bulk of it is haiku. A couple of favorites, both from #1: "a dead sparrow:/eyes open/to the silence" (Boldman); "a child/walks home/inside the rain" (Brackett). As a bonus, every issue comes with some **HAIKU CANADA SHEETs**, showcasing the works of particular authors. Best issue of a haiku zine I've seen in a long time. (D-28)(pj)

★★★★★

Terry Havens, **INSIDE THE SYRINGE** ($1 from Ken Wagner, 511 W. Sullivan, Olean, NY 14760): Yuck! This poetry comes from a young man who's already had it with the world. Death, necrophilia, overdoses, kicking in the teeth of pacifists...it's all here. Society takes the blame. (M-16)(MG)

★★★★★

HEATHENZINE #2 (75¢ from Ken Wagner, 511 W. Sullivan, Olean, NY 14760): Mostly poetry, though there are a few zine reviews and some letters sandwiched in. Ken has selected a pile of poems dealing with sex and relationships, many of them

HEATHENzine #2
"BIOPORNO" an excellent excerpt from Al Harmon's work-in-progress "120 DAYS OF OF SALMON"... Also contains poetry by: John Bennet; Andrew Gettler; Stacey Sollfrey; Cheryl Townsend; Paul Weinman & MORE!
NEED;
Poetry; Short Prose; Art; Photo's; Comics; Zines...
75¢ & Age Stmnt.
Ken Wagner
511 W. Sullivan
Olean, NY 14760

somewhat obsessive or even misogynist. Quite a romp through the demons of the mind. (M-28r)(MG)

★★★★★

HELLO BLUEBIRD ($1 (?) from A.A., 1415 1/2 E. John St., Seattle, WA 98112): A collection of poetry together with photocopies photos, put together by Antero Alli. Much of this has a sort of romantic/erotic feel, notably Margareta Waterman's untitled poem and Gretchen Mattila's "Sometimes I think of You". Sewn binding. (M-24)(MG)

★★★★★

Michael Helsem, **RAPS CLACK CALCSPAR** (? from Slough Press, Box 1385, Austin, TX 78767): A variety of Helsem's work, in a mild protest format—author refused to have work published w/word processor. Since it's a variety, the best review is probably a sampling. Here's a few lines from "Dogs Get Cancer Too": "i gather persimmon traces/from the floor of a subway car/scumbled over by a/charcoal gray/i look into faces/that might have once held light..." (D-38)(pj)

★★★★★

Albert Huffstickler, **5** ($1.50 from Press of Circumstance, 312 E 43 #103, Austin, TX 78751): 4 poems, 3 telling stories of "real-life" situations and 1 sketching a cryptic dream. The language is flowing and accessible. Some lines from "314 McKenzie," a bittersweet return to a former residence: "...because you can't do anything/about memories anyway/because even if you forget, houses don't forget/and even when the house is gone, there's still the earth/and the earth never forgets anything, ever." (D-4)(pj)

★★★★★

Albert Huffstickler, **NIGHT DINER** ($3.50 from Press of Circumstance, 312 E 43 #103, Austin, TX 78751): Many of the poems in this chapbook start with longer flowing lines, then break suddenly into short, fast, choppy lines which play abstractly off the opening. There seems to be a character thru-out, a man, a soldier. Observe the abrupt change: "...it was his way of asking/if innocence had been lost forever/or if it could be/studied and reclaimed/under the GI Bill [new stanza] drip drop/drip drop/gutter drips/in unknown alley/figure passes...." (D-42)(pj)

★★★★★

Albert Huffstickler, **THE OLD MAN** ($1.50 from Press of Circumstance, 312 E 43 #103, Austin, TX 78751): 2 poems about an old man. The 1st describes his quiet, easy, content life living in New Mexico: hot sun, faded jeans, pack a smokes, and country music. In the 2nd, he awakes "bone-tired" one day. Exquisite work—it does its damage before you have a chance to defend yourself. (D-4)(pj)

★★★★★

HUNGRY ZIPPER #1-4 (50¢ (?) from Brian Davis J(o(h)n)ston, 445 Glengarry Ave. #401, Windsor, ONT, N9A 1P7, CANADA): These little cards and minis hover on the edge between poetry and experioddica, since they take one poem each and present it in a careful, colorful fashion. #2, a short poem from John Bennett, echoes madly through my mind, while #1 is a reminder that, as the editor says, zippers are not vegetarian. (M-4)(MG)

★★★★★

Lori Jackson, **MY MOUTH IS A WHOLE IN MY FACE** ($2 from Oyster Publications, 723 N. Highland Ave, Arlington Hts, IL 60004): A woman's voice to be reckoned with. Abundant heterosexual relations yet revolt against the macho man. Disgust w/middle class Mom. Candid, straight talk from the city. This poetry might not live forever, but few will relax during the encounter. (D-40)(pj)

★★★★★

Ave Jeanne, **UNDER BLACK HAT & MADNESS** ($3 from 1916 Lincoln St, Croydon, PA 19020-8026): These poems single out people, it seems, and expose a depth in their simplest gestures. A woman character name Emily figures into many of these works. The ending of "Miss Emily/with thoughts of green": "and today i watch her again/absorbing steam soup as near her right/hand green flower wilt each time/she/blinks." (D-32)(pj)

★★★★★

D. Jewell, **CONFESSIN' THE WINTERTIME BLUES** ($5 *CASH* from David Jewell, 504 W. 24th #48, Austin, TX 78705): A serious book of poetry, which moves gradually from an exploration of love to an exploration of life, grappling all the while with alienation and futility. Eventually the poet seems to come to an understanding, a way out of his personal Chapel Perilous: "it's a long shot to nowhere/you take the best ride you can/it leaves you empty stranded wanting/it tangles up your plans." Good reading, spiral bound. (S-80t)

★★★★★

KALI KISSES (free from #102-407 Agnes Street, New Westminster, B.C., Canada V3L 1G2): Apparently this is a relatively new literary zine. There was more than one contributor, but the works aren't marked in a way that allows one to associate a poem with an author. The work is novice: "Please wait no longer/Because I'm not quite the same/Don't hate, I'm no stronger...." Actively seeking submissions. (D-12)(pj)

★★★★★

KANGAROOS & BEANS #1 ($1 (?) from Gregg Nannini, PO Box 52304, Livonia, MI 48152-9998): A poetry journal looking for "poems that give the feeling of Sunday morning", among other things. The poetry here seems a bit straitlaced, with the carefully crafted word pictures avoiding a lot of the energy that others generate. This is OK, it gives a solid feel, but by eschewing flash they;re going to turn off some readers. Nancy Rice's "China" is a very strong poem, the best in the collection. (D-20)(MG)

★★★★★

Kera, **SLEEPLESS** ($1.50 from Oyster Publications, 723 N. Highland Ave, Arlington Hts, IL 60004): Free verse poetry hand-lettered rather than printed. Introspective and interpersonal work: "I was given a voice/That won't speak/For my fist/Never clenches anger." The interpersonal poems play between the author and a love. Much like a diary, for those who are interested. (D-64)(pj)

★★★★★

KICKING AND SCREAMING ($3.50 from Wicked Mule Poetry Alliance, 165 N. Dunlap, St. Paul, MN 55104): Strange fractured urban angst poetry from Paul Dickinson with equally strange urban drawings by S.A. Dolan. It's all like viewing the city in a mirror cracked, seeing bits and pieces of the big, alienated picture juxtaposed in new ways. Dickinson seems to be groping towards some overall vision of a better, or at least different life, and yet cannot quite explain himself. (D-44t)(MG)

★★★★★

t.l. kryss, **FALLING THROUGH THE CRACKS** (? from 4115 E-81, Cleveland, OH 44105): If you manage your way past the hideous yellow cover, you'll find substance below. Here, Kryss' voice is that of a detached observer, albeit one who makes rather strange connections. Many of the observations fall hollow, but the ones that don't, land like an unexpected lead weight. (D-20)(pj)

★★★★★

t.l. kryss, **MUSIC IN THE WINEPRESS, PARROTS IN THE FLAMES** ($1 from 4115 E-81, Cleveland, OH 44105): Published back in 1976, this shows a different Kryss. The 1st person frequents these poems. No discernible pattern to the topics. From "With My Breath": "I enter/down a cobblestone alley,/look at a rock claimed to have once been/some sort of settler's landing./A dead fish nuzzles a star." (D-48)(pj)

★★★★★

LAB NOTES (? from PO Box 24155, Winston-Salem, NC 27114-4155): A broadside, perhaps? Poems by a handful of authors, photocopied and stapled together. Beginners that stumble from subject to subject. If this were a book it could be judged by its cover. (S-4)(pj)

★★★★★

LA DRIVER (free from Andrea J. Nicholas, 12226 Victory Blvd #325, N Hollywood, CA 91606): Poetry zine with a quiet environmental thread thru the poems (louder in the editorial). Yvonne de la Vega's "Hey Chico" was a gripping plea to an older brother (Nam Vet) who has disappeared. Chico was kinda crazy, but dearly loved. If the account were cleaned-up a wee bit, it would be a masterpiece. (D-28)(pj)

★★★★★

LILLIPUT REVIEW 10 (? from D. Wentworth, 4 Huddy Avenue, Highlands, NJ 07732): A little mini with 10 mini poems. One semi-interesting work, then real crap. If pushed, I could point only to Huffstickler's "Status Quo" as memorable: the author's father is a stone in his heart, and he lets "...him wait./As all stones must,/he is learning patience." (M-8)(pj)

★★★★★

LUST 3 (? from Gerry Benbrugge, Ommeganckstrast 39, 2018 Antwerp, Belgium): That's a new address. There's poems in English, and some in Belgian(?). Kinda has the feel of some European punks trying their hand at poetry in English; some of the poems appear to be songs. Simplistic, but the contact is probably of interest to some. (D-24)(pj)

★★★★★

LYNX ($4 from Eruptions Inc., PO Box 169; Toutle, WA 98649): Still celebrating the Japanese renga poetry form, this zine continues to expand. Participation rengas are restricted to subscribers; however, the editor welcomes prose, poetry, photos, sketches, and reviews (in the spirit of renga) from all friends of the frog. (HL-24)(pj)

★★★★★

Peter Mantis, **COMPLYING WITH NATURAL LAWS** (50¢ from Peter Mantis, 1 Stonewall, Memphis, TN 38104): With this Mantis publishes some of his recent work in the BONESAUCE format. It's personal, pessimistic stuff. Frequently these works degenerate into observations and/or opinions that are merely written in a poetry format. Nothing particularly exciting. (D-)10 (pj)

★★★★★

Kembrew McLeod, **THE IMMORTAL FAIRY TALE SAGA** ($3 from 917 Prince Phillip Dr., Virginia Beach, VA 23452): Let me be so bold as to beseech the author to spruce-up the rhyme & meter—this could go somewhere. It's a 7 part epic poem that uses contemporary fictional characters (e.g. Kermit & Mr Rogers) and gives them a darker side. These lines should display both the humor and the problems: "Mr. Rogers stayed home, cooking some stew,/For his live-in lover, Captain Kangaroo...." (S-20)(pj)

★★★★★

MO-FUNK (SAY YOU TRIED) ($2 from Drew Blood Press, 3410 First St., Riverside, CA 92501)Death, AIDS, sex, pain, disappointment...the poets here do not exactly take a cheerful view of the world. This leads to good poetry in a lot of cases, word-pictures that knife through your guts, but overall the book is pretty much a downer. Oh sure, the poets themselves are survivors so far...but for how long? (D-32r)(MG)

★★★★★

Sheila Murphy, **SOFT MEGAPHONES** (? from D. Wentworth, 4 Huddy Avenue, Highlands, NJ 07732): A Lilliput Review broadside (#11) comprised solely of Murphy's work. Don't remember seeing this abstract, clipped approach from Sheila. "W" is exemplary: "The climax of this movie is its soundlessness. I take charge in front of him to satisfy his expectations. Narrative is pseudo steam I talk back to conscience." (S-1)(pj)

★★★★★

MUSE Jan./Feb. 1990 ($10/6 months from PO Box 45, Burlington, NC 27216-0045): A magazine for poets, which has a few pages of poetry but mostly prose. That's because the idea is to be a resource, so it's filled instead with articles on the art of being a poet. They also track prize competitions and do a bit of critiquing. (S-22)(MG)

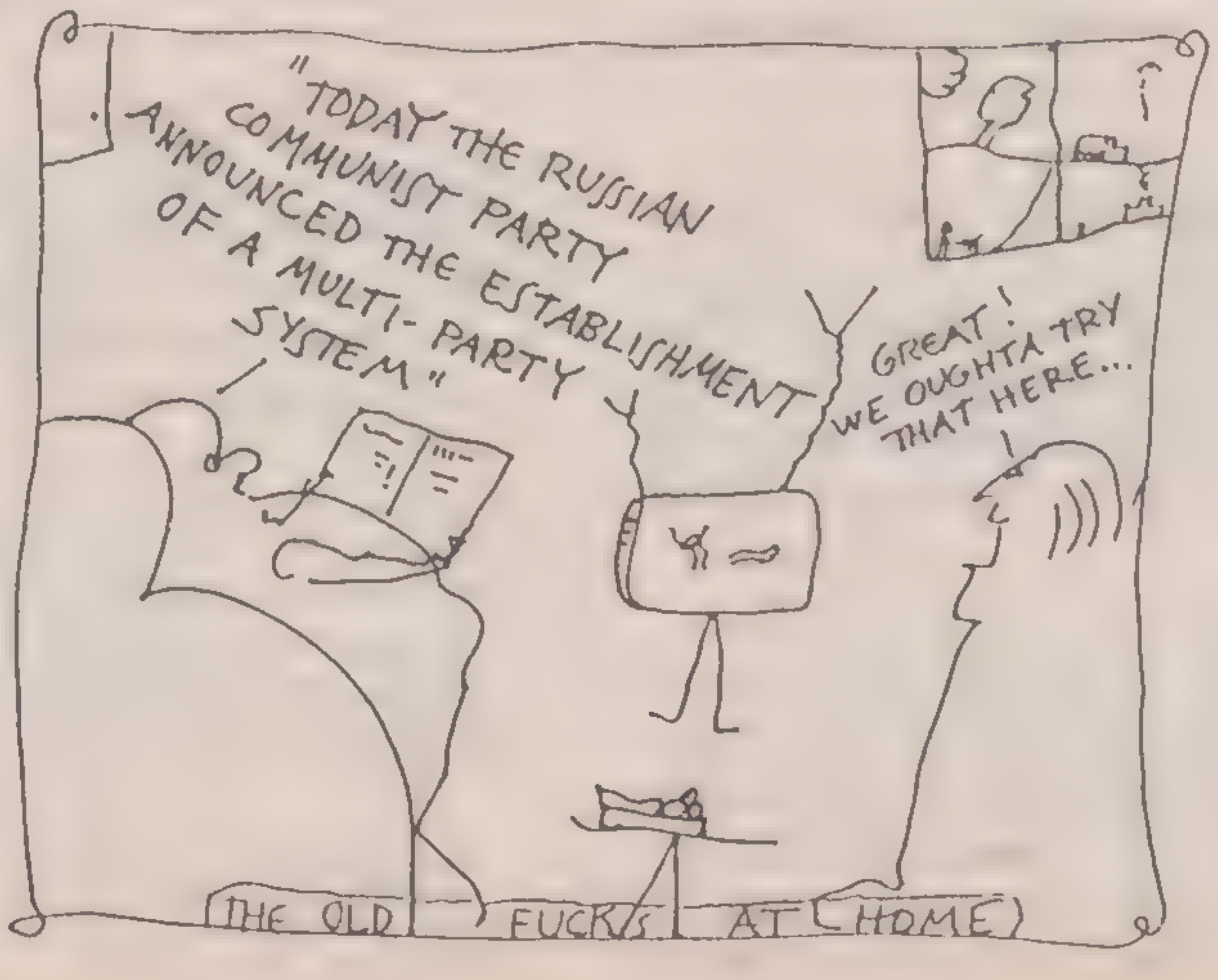
★★★★★

D.W. Myatt, **GENTLEMAN OF THE ROAD** (7 IRCs from Thormynd Press, PO Box 4, Church Stretton, Shropshire, ENGLAND): Subtitled "Poems of a Wanderer", these are quiet contemplations on civilization and nature from one who is more a part of the latter than the former. There's an overall plaintive tone to these poems, a sense that something is wrong with the world, or at least with man's presence in it. (D-20)(MG)

★★★★★

Mychele, **BREAK WAY** ($3 from PO Box 1892, Tempe, AZ 85280-1892): A collection of relationship poems and scary life poems. Mychele hints around her subject, but there's a sense of control lost and later regained, of a life crumbling and reassembled. Careful words and airy images. (D-16t)(MG)

★★★★★


"TODAY THE RUSSIAN COMMUNIST PARTY ANNOUNCED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MULTI-PARTY SYSTEM"
GREAT! WE OUGHTA TRY THAT HERE...
THE OLD FUCKS AT HOME

Mychele, **SURVIVORS** ($1 from PO Box 1892, Tempe, AZ 85280-1892): A collection of poetry and short prose that Mychele wrote while in high school—a time which was the worst of her life. There are bleak suicidal poems here, interspersed with rebelliousness and the occasional ray of hope. The book exists to tell other young people to find a way to get through it, and that there are people who will listen; a good message to repeat. (D-16t)(MG)

★★★★★

NEXT EXIT 15 ($3 from 92 Helen St, Kingston, Ontario, Canada K7L 4P3): A poetry zine, this issue filled with safe, contemporary free verse. There's also some mini-reviews, similar in format to this one. Lyfshin has 3 works here. Generally work of fair craft, though nothing that'll blow you out of the water. (D-28)(pj)

★★★★★

R.J. Neubauer, **TREES AND PEOPLE AND THE WORLD** (? from 2048 Wayneport Rd, Lot 7B, Macedon, NY 14502): Efforts such as this truly make the small press an alternative. The author wrote this for his nieces and nephews; it'd be of interest to young people immediately upon learning to read. People goof, slowly cutting down the trees, until one day there's none left. Oh gee, there's also no birds. But wait. Some smart young person plants a tree. Look! What beauty. Printed on recycled paper. (D-16)(pj)

★★★★★

R.J. Neubauer, **UNBUTTONING THE SCREW** (? from 2048 Wayneport Rd, Lot 7B, Macedon, NY 14502): This chapbook is a small collection of work written 1979-1989. Rhyme is present throughout these short poems. The author writes of the personal: memories of love, turning 30, growing fat. This is "Sour Grapes": "We used to be the best of friends./We shared alot./I kept up my end of the deal/But I think you forgot." (D-16)(pj)

★★★★★

R.J. Neubauer, **THIS IS WHERE WE LIVE** (? from 2048 Wayneport Rd, Lot 7B, Macedon, NY 14502): A chapbook of 10 short poems (average about 6-7 lines). As might be guessed from the title, these are about the environment. This rhymed poem, "Social Changes," gives a fair flavor of the others: "Today, there are less/cornfields, and more/cul-de-sacs/No one cares about dreaming/they only want the facts." (D-12)(pj)

★★★★★

R.J. Neubauer, **SCANDAGA MEMOIRS** (? from 2048 Wayneport Rd, Lot 7B, Macedon, NY 14502): Of the 10 poems in this chapbook, at least half appear in one of the other chapbooks by Neubauer reviewed in this ish. In addition, "Chair One," a piece about a content carpenter finishing a hand-made chair has appeared before my eyes previously: I still like it. (D-12)(pj)

★★★★★

R.J. Neubauer, **ROAN RABBIT FINDS A RAINBOW** (? from 2048 Wayneport Rd, Lot 7B, Macedon, NY 14502): Another book for young people. Again, probably for those who've just learned to read. This is a simple story about Roan Rabbit. Roan races to the edge of the woods to see what has everyone's attention. It's a rainbow, and it's waiting to be colored. (D-12)(pj)

★★★★★

NOON BLUE APPLES #17-18 ($1 from Eric Wagner, 2080 E. Greenway, Tempe, AZ 85282): This broadside has been travelling across the desk often enough to convince me Eric has readers and/or a whole lot of fun. Now I don't find this clever or funny, but what the hell do I know? Some of Eric: "I'd like to lay/yr surreal ass/on a/surreal pillow/& teach you how to fly/sprinkle faery dust/on yr nipples." Anyone for flying lessons? #18 features material on "Five Years off Finning", the joys of exploring the ins and outs of **FINNEGANS WAKE**.(S-8)(pj)

NRG 29, 30, & 31 ($2 from Dan Raphael, 6735 SE 78th, Portland 97206): A large tabloid with poetry and graphics in which you can almost certainly find a name you like, or at least recognize. No idea when these were published, though certain clues point to some time after 1987. The salient characteristic is the large selection of work, varying in quality. Should there be means to pretty this up, it could be a 1st class pub. (T-mucho)(pj)

★★★★★

Norris K. Oler, **UNIVERSAL SKY** ($2 from PO Box 11641, Berkley, CA 94701-2641): Sloppy odes inspired, no doubt, by deep and sincere emotion. There's a coordination problem between Oler's heart and pen: "In my world love prevails/There exists no sin or sorrow/Though living today is pure ecstasy/I can hardly wait til tomorrow." This comes on a fine, cream-colored, heavy stock paper: recycling of some form is certainly appropriate. (S-22t)(pj)

★★★★★

ONE PAGE March 1990 (SASE (?) from Bill Shields, PO Box 47, Youngwood, PA 15697): "A publication of socially-relevant poetry", which, together with the title, pretty much says it all. There are short poems on Vietnam, the environment, child abuse, and South Africa, among other subjects, from people who obviously believe that poetry is a social tool. (S-2r)(MG)

★★★★★

Sal Robert Pauciello, **SPLINTERED DREAMS** ($5 from 9 Stanley St., Irvington, NJ 07111): Sal's first book of poetry, published over a decade ago, and perhaps it should have been allowed to rest in peace. But he sent a review copy and I've got to say that the clumsy imagery here doesn't do a lot for me: "Contemplating evening stars,/Riding in a railroad car,/The panel window became a movie screen & a psychedelic mirror simultaneously..." is one especially uninspired passage. (D-65)

★★★★★

THE PLASTIC TOWER 2 ($2.50 from PO Box 702, Bowie, MD 20718): This is a young poetry zine, and there are some hints of promise. No, it's not filled with unforgettable poetry, but there's fine editorial work and signs of commitment. Looking for submissions. And they should be looking for some graphics to replace the simplistic computer-generated ones they have now. Certainly Clifton Brock's limerick's were a highpoint in this ish. (D-42)(pj)

★★★★★

THE PLOWMAN Vol. 2 #1-3 ($7.50 from Box 414, Whitby, Ontario Canada L1N 5S4): From the start, this poetry tabloid seemed unusual for the small press: evidence of a large bankroll, entirely calligraphic issues, odes to photos of female strippers, claims of being "deep," etc. Then a mention of free classifieds, and oh the countless patrons. Editor Tony Scavetta called all the shots. Now there's Tony's "The Jesus Killers," a controversial work which many Jews take offense to. Vol. 2, no. 2 is solely dedicated to the controversy. The interesting issue is whether the free classifieds will be too hard to resist. Ah, questions of ethics for struggling writers... With #3 the Jewbaiting seems to have finally been dropped, though there's something new for the writing community to get outraged over: A $10 reading fee to submit a chapbook.(T-112)(pj)

★★★★★

POETRY? NOTICE! #2 (2 Stamps from M. Butler, PO Box 935, Fairview, NC 28730): This one pints works as submitted, so is looking for poems that already fit in a 5"x7" space. There's already a selection here, some typed, many scrawled or handwritten; poetry with the presentation stripped out to leave only the words. In some cases, this works really well. (D-20)(MG)

★★★★★

POETS AT WORK Jan & Feb ($3 from Jesee Poet, RD #1, Poertersville, PA 16051): Since this is my 1st look, I have trouble discerning the nature of this thing. I hazard to guess that subscribers automatically get their work published within, though this isn't totally clear. Poems are grouped by topic/style. Meg Kramer writes of "Wrinkles," cleverly detailing those that she would live with, if such choices were possible. (S-40)(pj)

★★★★★

POETRY HALIFAX DARTMOUTH 35 ($2 from Box 7074 North, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada B3K 5J4): Regional events and news are covered well, but the editors remind us that this is not strictly a regional poetry journal. This issue has the '89 Nova Scotia Poetry Awards. John B. Lee received 1st place for his cold and numbing "Dying on the ice at 39 is hard": "No pyrotechnics of the heart./It just suddenly stopped/like a small bird slamming into glass." Good choice, editors. (D-24t)(pj)

★★★★★

THE POETRY PROJECT 136 ($20 contribution or $50/yr membership from St Mark's Church in-the-Bowery, 2nd Ave & 10th St, NY, NY 10003): There's an account of Edwin Denby's passing that will be of interest to many. Also, a couple of extended reviews and schedules of upcoming events. Scattered poems, and a letter exchange between Bawer and Perloff (re: work of William Carlos Williams) that's enough to make you puke. (S-22)(pj)

★★★★★

A. Razor, **EVERYTHING IS SHINY GREY** ($2 from D. Blood, 3410 W 1st St, Riverside, CA 92501): Some rhyme and much introspection, with mild religious undercurrents throughout. There's frustration with the socio-political climate, but never an eloquent or moving poetic critique. A Razor rhyme: "the bouncing baby has no clothes/so we feed the baby/through the nose/and watch the baby as it grows." Among the most clever. (D-20)(pj)

★★★★★

A. Razor, **SPARE BLADES** ($2 from Drew Blood Press, 3410 First St., Riverside, CA 92501): Nitty-gritty punk poetry that goes from skateboards to cop confrontations to sexuality to the sheer injustice of the world. Sorta bleak in spots, but there's a gut-level hardness here which speaks of inner strengths. (D-24t)(MG)

★★★★★

Brian Richardson, **THIRD FLOOR...PARADISE** ($3 from 541 NW Newton, Burleson, TX 76028-3725): A poetry chapbook with a rap rhythm to it, with the poems written in all capitals and "meant to be read at maximum volume". Death, Vietnam vets, dangerous women, and the "jazz police" all show up here. A distinctive voice. (D-20t)(MG)

★★★★★

Elliot Richman, **FUCKING IN STUPID HOPE** ($2 from Box 2071, New Market Station, Niagara Falls, NY 14301): This chapbook is subtitled "Love Poems of the Death of the 80's;" and it's worth mentioning that Slipstream has Richman performing "Safe Sex" on cassette—the humor doesn't translate nearly so well on paper. This work is coy: it's funny then suddenly serious, powerful, or almost desperate; it's personal, the author there in every piece. Sex, death, friends, life...sensationalistic, but real. (D-24)(pj)

★★★★★

Abednego Roach, **GAG** (75¢ from Wright & Good, PO Box 423, Yellow Springs, OH 45387): The publisher calls this "A superficial homage to the Beats". It's a single poem, running from seasonal imagery to sandwiches and guided missiles. Hard to tell if they're serious or parodying. (D-4t)(MG)

★★★★★

Kell Robertson, **OUTLAW FIRES** (? from Tom Kryss, 4115 E-81, Cleveland, OH 44105): 13 free verse poems, the imagery drawing from scenes of people together in nature. Well, that's one current. Then there's scattered things: sex, bats, rain. In "Song," the writing flows easiest: "we'll ride up/somewhere on a high mesa/burn pork and beans in at can/and then/finish the whiskey/and throw/the bottle a the moon/knowing we're going to miss it/and laughing forever because we did." (D-17)(pj)

★★★★★

Sappho, **POETIC FRAGMENTS** (7 IRCs from Thormynd Press, PO Box 4, Church Stretton, Shropshire, ENGLAND): Translated by D.W. Myatt from the Greek, these fragments are selected from the extant ones to concentrate on those showing the poet's feeling towards women. Myatt has produced a very tender reading, with gentle images for the most part. (D-20)(MG)

★★★★★

SATELLITE ($2 from 3410 First St., Riverside, CA 92501): Lean and mean poetry, stripped down to a bone-core of meaning and feeling. M. McNally's several explorations of loneliness succeed in capturing in emotion in forty words or less and displaying it in all its glory. (D-20r)(MG)

★★★★★

THE SOW'S EAR Vol. II, #I ($3 from 245 McDowell Street, Bristol, TN 37620): The Appalachian peoples and environment run thru this zine. Life and living are poetic. "Autumn" by Jeffrey Folks captures the land, but "At Tom's Wake" by J.S. Rasnake, II is the extreme case of capturing a people: "Ould Tom never moved a bit/just like he said iffen you be her man go on/and kill me and iffen you aint I aim to go on/and he did I reckon for he toled me Shut the door...." (S-32 (pj)

* * *

Sparrow 13, **BUMS EAT SHIT AND OTHER POEMS** ($2 & 2 stamps from Manic D Press, PO Box 410804, San Francisco, CA 94141): A collection of liquid flowing long-lined poems looking at the heart of the city: bum poems, gay poems, homeless poems, drug poems. Sparrow 13 seems to have a lot of compassion and empathy for the down-and-outers, and these poems might help a few people look on those less fortunate with more humanity. (D-16t)(MG)

* * *

Kent Taylor, **EMPTY GROUND** (? from T. Kryss 4115 E-81, Cleveland, OH 44105): 12 poems packaged in another one of those vomit-yellow covers. The author describes events and surroundings in a dreamy manner: "the holes in my tennis/shoes leak sand/the night/pours through/like love." This would benefit from a better layout; it's so shoddy it's actually mechanically difficult to read (D-15)(pj)

* * *

TEMM #2 (50¢ from Ken Wagner, 511 W. Sullivan, Olean, NY 14760): The title is an acronym for "The Enchanted Mountain Monthly", which previously *was* the title. Inside this issue are mainly poems about pregnancy and childbirth, along with some drawings of brand-new people. Very life-affirming overall. (M-16r)(MG)

* * *

THIRTEEN Vol. 8, #2 ($2.50 from Box 392, Portlandville, NY 13834-0392): One review, 2 graphics, one visual piece, then a multitude of short poems splashed over the remaining pages. Did I say short? If I've caught on, they're all 13 lines to be exact. Varied topics. Many might find this a nice journal to have around, the 13-liners are kinda bite-size chunks you can snack on all day long. (S-40)(pj)

* * *

Jason Underground, **WHEN IT COMES TO DOING THINGS BY THE BOOK, CONSIDER ME A FUNCTIONAL ILLITERATE** (Free from Jesus Freaks, Ink, 2795 Via Vela, Camarillo, CA 93010): In this chapbook Jason explores some of the dimensions of privilege: having a home, being born in a rich country, living in an affluent neighborhood. A lot of compassion oozes from these pages, the result of a religious sense of connection with other people. (D-28)(MG)

* * *

Barbara Unger, **LEARNING TO FOXTROT** (? from The Bellevue Press, 60 Schubert St, Binghamton, NY 13905): This, apparently, is in book form; however, the review copy was a xerox—implicit written consent by the author. Among other things, Unger describes women and wives, youth and children. Somehow never political; instead, she seems content to document hers and other lives. Generally safe imagery, occasionally provocative. (D-53)(pj)

* * *

Kendra Usack, **JOURNEY WITHIN** (? from 12256 Turkey Wing Court, Reston, VA 22091): Not sure what form you'd get this in, ours was a typed manuscript with photocopies of graphics in places. Vague images of people intimate to the author are center stage, but they are juxtaposed by this recurring "alien" motif. Hard to figure. Here's a brief glimpse from "First View of Jawa": "Across the barren tufts of rock we see/the place we must build/the conduits of our city..." (S-15)(pj)

* * *

Jason Walters, **SCHIZOLESBOMANIA** (50¢ from 526 Haight St, San Francisco, CA 94117): A mini that will test your nearsightedness. The intro by the author shouldn't be missed. What follows is an angry confession of disgust with the world: "You giggled while we had sex/It was an echo of my own life...." A trying piece. (M-8r)(pj)

* * *

Paul Weinman, **UGLY MAN'S BUTTOCKS FREEZE INSTANTLY EYED** (Stamps from Paul Weinman, 79 Cottage Ave., Albany, NY 12203): Poems from the streets—based on people and situations encountered in a homeless men's shelter here in Albany. Paul delineates the day-to-day lives of those with and without hope in short sharp poetry, bus stations, chapels, bits of work, bits of wine. (D-24r)

* * *

Paul Weinman, **WHITE BOY'S ASPARAGUS THICKER THAN A MAN** (Stamps from Paul Weinman, 79 Cottage Ave., Albany, NY 12203): A good selection of Paul's White Boy poems, largely focused on racism and poverty with a bit of sex and homelessness thrown in on the side. Paul always has a selection of his stuff available for those who care to send for it. (M-20)(MG)

* * *

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT #7 ($3 from Blaustein, 89 E. 3rd St. #5C, New York, NY 10003): The cover plugs this as a "poetry journal" despite the fact that it contains some prose content as well. Seem to be more love and romance and sex poems than usual in this issue, with Alice Rosenblatt's "Mid-week Sonnet" reaching some sort of height of cynicism about the whole business of love. Robert Parody's "Three Poems About Dancers" have a nice beat to them. (S-52)(MG)

* * *

Dan Wilcox, **THE VIEW FROM THE BELLVUE BRIDGE** ($1 from 280 South Main Avenue, Albany, NY 12208): The author warns this is just a "random" selection. There's just a few poems, but the poet is humble. Wilcox is funny, yet delicate. A strong voice. The ending of "Shaker Hymn" displays his humor: "No games/No drugs/No sex/No children/No one left anymore." And the opening of "Aftershave" hints at the delicate precision: "The smell of sunshine the way it looks/all yellow and metallic white, like/hydrogen atoms collapsing in the closet." Love to see a larger collection. (S-6)(pj)

* * *

THE WONDERFUL WORLD NEWS Vol. 6, #2 ($10/yr from Ringer, 2525 Arapahoe Ave Suite E4173, Boulder, CO 80302): This must be a broadside. It contains but a single poem, "My English Teacher" (author unknown). A crush on a woman teacher leads to a poem employing syntax from your grade school grammar book. Strained rhyme and stilted meter detract from what would be, at best, cute. (S-4)(pj)

* * *

Bob Z, **COMMUNIST EGG BEATERS** ($2 from Bob Z c/o Sarris BkMktg, 125 E 23rd St, #300, NY, NY 10010): Gunderloy provides a rebellious intro to Bob's mini of punkture. The wandering and crowded layout reinforces the ever-present "fuck that bullshit" in the—dare i say—poet's voice. Today's culture is pointed to as inane. Take for instance "Flaming Underpants," the latest craze: "...people will demand to know/what you got down there!/Flaming underpants!/Don't you wish you had a pair?/Flaming underwear!" Ain't it absurd. (M-40r)(pj)

* * *

POETRY NOTES

- It is possible that I lost three or four reviews from this section due to a disk crash. If you sent something before March 5 and it was not reviewed, please drop me a line.
- **FROG GONE REVIEW**, which has previously advertised for submissions, is requiring purchase of a copy to have your work considered.
- **The League of Canadian Poets** may be contacted at 24 Ryerson Ave., Toronto, ONT, M5T 2P3, CANADA. I believe they publish a newsletter, but don't know how much a membership is.
- **Rupert Loydell** of **STRIDE** needs submissions for a paperback anthology of "New US Writing" to be published in 1991. Send 5-10 poems, a brief bio, and a couple of IRCs to be considered: 37 Portland Street, Newtown, Exeter, EX1 2EG, ENGLAND.

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PAMPHLETS, LEAFLETS, BOOKLETS, AND OTHER ONE-SHOTS

(perfect bound items are generally listed in the BOOKS section)

ADAMANT EVA ($1 from Maga, Box 6704 Stn. A, Toronto, ONT, M5W 1X5, CANADA): More obscure art from the Maga folks. This mini combines Biblical quotations and woodcuts with gossip-magazine reports on Cher and her romances. I'm not entirely sure what the point is, or whether there even is one. Curious. (M-20t)

★★★★★

Jennifer Axinn, **THE DAY INSECURITY CAME TO TEA, THE CHILDREN KNOW THE STORY OF THE STARS**, and **CONVERSATION WITH THE ELEMENTES** ($3.95 each from Fish Drum, 626 Kathryn Ave., Santa Fe, NM 87501): A trio of pocket-sized chapbooks printed on fine textured paper. Jennifer supplies line drawings with short captions—there's not too many words here, sort of a children's book for adults. The themes tend to be poetic, soaring, odes to the connectedness of the universe. A sort of visual poetry with classy execution. (MM-36t)

★★★★★

BASICS OF MAGIC HANDBOOK I ($5 from Church of Seven Arrows, PO Box 185, Wheatridge, CO 80034-0185): A revised edition of a CSA publication from some years ago, this one covers the principles of magic (starting with a list of cautions and "rules of the road") and the use of the various elements (air, fire, water, earth). For each element they give correspondences and familiarization and practice exercises. On completing the course one should be capable of performing various healing and self-defense operations. (D-44r)

★★★★★

Jake Berry, **HYPOLOG** ($1 from Jake Berry, 2251 Helton Dr. #N7, Florence, AL 35630): Words (real and imagined) and scribbles from Jake. Every once in a while something sensible will pop up here—"goldfinch" caught my eye—but the column reading "srib blad grad" is more typical. Language breaks down to babble in this mini. (M-20)

★★★★★

BLACK WALL (3/$1 from Joe Franke, 2288 Hawk, Simi Valley, CA 93065): Quick minipages of thoughts, drawings, and opinion. Joe seems a tad pissed off about humanity, frozen burritos, and life in general. Sort of a contemplative place to read. (M-12t)

★★★★★

□BOB! BOB! ($2 from Peter Fallas, c/o F&F, G&G, 778 Morris Tpke., Short Hills, NJ 07078): A single image, repeated page upon page upon page, in a variety of glowing colors, for the budding SubGenius to meditate on. No, it's not the guy with the pipe, but apparently one of his faithful followers. (S-18)

★★★★★

BOY WITH ARMS AKIMBO ($1 (?) from Healing Tales, PO Box 77271, San Francisco, CA 94107): The boy is a sort of tough cleancut looking schoolboy, standing with hands on hips, staring out. Apparently he has been appearing on posters around the SF Bay area, arguing against the new Puritans. This mini tells his story, or perhaps tries to install a new archetype in the American subconscious. (M-16t)

★★★★★

Suzanne Bridgeman, **MUERTE Y OTRAS FIESTAS** ($1 & 50¢ stamps from 1973 Amarillo Pl., Escondido, CA 92025): A short story which intercuts talk and thoughts of depth between two different settings. It ends with the narrator having a flash of insight into her own young life. Well-written and direct. (HL-8)

★★★★★

Michael Brownstein, **THE SHOOTING GALLERY** ($2 from Samisdat, PO Box 129, Richford, VT 05476): A chapbook of prose and poetry, the great bulk of it centered around nasty life in the inner city (and you can make the fable/parable fit that mold too if you try). Brownstein doesn't dress things up, just puts them down on paper, showing society what it has to be ashamed of. (D-12)

★★★★★

CEREAL TALK Parts 7-8 (SASE from Graham Trievel, Box 481 Rte. 113, Lionville, PA 19353): Graham reviews cereals for various publications, and this is his latest two manuscripts, dealing with Quisp, Quake, Quangaroos and Moonstones. If you ask he'll throw in a list of where the previous parts were published. (S-2)

★★★★★

THE CHALLENGE FOR PROGRESSIVES (SASE from The Creative Core, PO Box 12812, San Diego, CA 92112-3812): This brief pamphlet from a group of leftists takes the US progressive movement (broadly defined) to task for being divided and not taking the world seriously—though they don't seem to offer a solution. Those who don't want a chewy polemic might prefer the "We Are the Peace Professionals" poster from the same address, an anarchist attack on the honchos of the Peace Movement. (D-4t)

★★★★★

DEMON LOVER ($1.25 from Lonepath Ltd., 1076 Curran Ave., Atlanta, GA 30318): A short fantasy story set in a complex world of empires and demons and magic. Most of what we know about this world comes out in passing; the focus is on the interactions of several young men, blood relatives, in trying to find their past and future. I likes this, though it's rather open-ended. (D-166r)

★★★★★

TIM DONOVAN

Tim sent me a batch of pamphlets, all available from him at 7 Ashland St., Manchester, CT 06040. Here's the current batch of stuff:

FALCON DISCLOSURES: SUMMATION AND COMMENTARY ($1): This is a fairly straightforward reporting of the recent round of MJ-12 disclosures, together with Tim's commentary. He feels we should stop trying to get at the truth of the matters lest the aliens take things into their own hands. (S-3)

FLYING SAUCERS: WHY THE COVERUP ($1): The reason, Tim says, is that if the truth were known it would result in the downfall of present society, so the powers-that-be have a stake in withholding it. Includes a diagram of his theory of evolutionary fascism. (S-2)

FUTURE FASCISM (25¢ & SASE): A call for future action, or a futurist scenario, stating that fascism and advanced technology will be needed to "meet the alien challenge!". Goes well with the Falcon stuff above. (S-1)

THE PENDULUM WILL SWING BACK TO AUTHORITARIANISM ($1): This one argues that current reforms in the Soviet bloc are doomed to fail, and when they do, the rest of the world will gradually revert to the strong-man form of rulership. As Tim points out, we live in unsettled times, so I suppose anything is possible. (S-4)

ROLE OF HI-TECH IN UNDERMINING DEMOCRACY (25¢ & SASE): The basic theory here is that robot slaves, as the basis for a society, will inevitably undermine the popular contentment

★★★★★

Catherine Downing, **CRITIQUE OF MODERNISM** (50¢ from Ken Wagner, 511 W. Sullivan, Olean, NY 14760): Catherine's critique comes as one trained in arts, and concentrates on modernism in the visual arts. The basic complaint here is that art has become something for the elites only, making no sense without formal training, while it ought to be accessible to and speak to everyone. (M-8r)

★★★★★

Charles Edwards, **TO BURN A WOMAN: A MANUAL FOR MEN** ($2 & SASE from Office Number One, 1709 San Antonio St.

#1, Austin, TX 78701): This booklet is based on the idea that men are fire and women water, so burning them is impossible—and, further, understanding them is likewise. It offers zen-like advice on being the perfect modern male, cloaked in poetic forms. A rather strange item. (M-16t)

★★★★★

Greg Evason & Daniel f. Bradley, **SATAN'S WORLD** ($2.50 & 2 stamps from Geof Huth, 225 State St. #451, Schenectady, NY 12305): A book(let) printed on separate pieces of paper, one for each one- or two-sentence chapter. The flavor here is of space opera SF, with lots of action and alien planets and cultures—but everything but the hint of the flavor is squeezed out by the condensation employed. (M-28)

★★★★★

Margaret Fell, **WOMENS SPEAKING JUSTIFIED PROVED AND ALLOWED OF BY THE SCRIPTURES** (£1.95 from Pythia Press, 96 Mansfield Rd., London NW3 2HX, ENGLAND): Margaret Fell was prominent in the early days of the Quaker movement, eventually marrying George Fox who brought the message to her. This text, written in jail, proves through Biblical exegesis that despite some words in a few of Paul's Epistles, preaching by women was encouraged by Christ and had plenty of precedent in the Old Testament. Pythia Press is to be congratulated tor their line of "Rare Writing by Remarkable Women", which includes this booklet. (A5-26t)

★★★★★

Eric Friedl, **THE LAS VEGAS STORY** ($2 from Puppethead, 59 Myrtle St., Medford, MA 02155): Take Las Vegas, heart of the American dream. Add a substantial chunk of LSD distributed among several friends. Reflect the whole thing in a mirror. Now smash the mirror and partially reassemble the shards, and you'll have something like this book, where grammar and syntax jump ship in favor of a kaleidoscopic view of the world. Hard to read, but interesting. (D-32)

★★★★★

Edward Fuqua, **ALONG THE FAIRIE PATH** ($1 from Brave New Words, PO Box 20421, Providence, RI 02920): A cute and clever little story of battle and confusion where the world of the fairies meets that of the normal people. Fuqua skillfully puts together traditional fairy lore with an action adventure plot to produce a polished story. (D-16r)

★★★★★

THE GERMS: A HISTORY IN CUTTINGS ($2 from Drew Blood Press, 3410 First St., Riverside, CA 92501): A selection of materials about the seminal punk band The Germs. It includes photos, posters, lyrics, interviews, and random bits of news, including coverage of Darby Crash's suicide. (S-36)

★★★★★

Olympe de Gouge, **THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN** (£1.95 from Pythia Press, 96 Mansfield Rd., London NW3 2HX, ENGLAND): De Gouges was beheaded during the French Revolution for, essentially, being a troublemaker: "forgetting the virtues proper to her sex" was the way the official report put it. Before she was executed, though, she penned this work, demanding the extension of "The Rights of Man" to both sexes, as well as equality within marriage and society generally. It stands as a firm statement of female equality, and de Gouge's fate, if more dramatic, was no less disgusting than society's treatment of many strong women today. (A5-20t)

★★★★★

GRAND UNION ($3 (?) from White Lion Press, 225 E. 5th St. #4D, New York, NY 10003): Subtitled "An Anthology of Great New New York Writing", this one collects 7 poets and writers between its covers. Ken Dimaggio's "ABC No Rio Poem" is a nice inside-out look at the performance/poetry scene in New York, while D. S. Sulaitis provides a strange story of a young lady and her loneliness and obsessions. Carl Watson and Ravi Singh also contribute strong pieces. (D-55t)

★★★★★

Vincent & Rosemarie Harding, **MOBILIZING THE FORCES OF HOPE: REFLECTIONS ON MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., AND THE U.S. MILITARY** ($2.50 from Mennonite Central Committee Peace Section, 21 S. 12th St., Akron, PA 17501): Published in Germany by the Military Counseling Network, this pamphlet reprints the stories of several people who were led out of the armed forces by consideration of Dr. King's philosophy. It also reprints a strong speech in which he points out the connections between poverty at home and war abroad, and a discussion essay by the Hardings, who worked with King, on what we might learn today from his example. (D-41t)

★★★★★

Gordon Henderson, **THE LAYMAN'S GUIDE TO STRANGERS** ($3.95 from 601 W. 160th St. #6D, New York, NY 10032): A book of disturbing drawings, heavy with distorted sexual imagery and otherwise mutated body parts. If you weren't paranoid before reading this, you might be afterwards. If you were paranoid to begin with, you probably shouldn't look at these pictures at all. (HL-30)

★★★★★

JURY ($1 from The Justice Advocate, PO Box 3125, Denver, CO 80201): This is the tile on a small slip of paper which the Justice Advocate folks will send you with their introductory packet of information. It explains in straightforward language the right of jury nullification, under which a jury may decide both the facts *and* the law—which, however, judges in this country are not predisposed to tell juries about. (S-1)

★★★★★

Joseph Kerrick, **THE BOOK OF YOD** (85¢ postage from PO Box 19412, Philadelphia, PA 19143): A two-part booklet of ecstatic writings. In the first part Kerrick speaks from his own Godhead (I think), with prophecies for the coming turn of the millenium. The second part is written in his own voice, explaining a theory of the actings of Tetragrammaton on three different time-scales. Should be of interest to most anyone into magick or prophecy. (D-32r)

★★★★★

Ben Klassen, **OPERATION RIP-OFF** (50¢ from COTCO, PO Box 1445, Hillsboro, OR 97123): More hare literature from the Church of the Creator. The theme of this one is that the hard-working white American taxpayer is being unjustly milked to support parasitical Jews, communists, and blacks. Invective, not economic analysis. (D-12t)

★★★★★

LE PEINTRE NATO (IRCs (?) from Fondation le Peintre Nato, 16, Rue Eugene Sue, 75018 Paris, FRANCE): This booklet is documentation in French of the work of performance (and otherwise) artist Le Peintre Nato (Painter Nato). Included in the booklet are drawings by the artist, a list of his life in art from 1963 through 1989, and reviews of his work, but of most interest are the photographs of Nato's happenings, where Nato devises bizarre situations with naked women and his own naked self. Although copulation is never the outcome of these happenings, Nato claims to be perhaps the only artist "to have dedicated his entire work to sex." The booklet includes a flyer requesting women to send him their "intimate articles" including pubic hairs and used underwear and tampons. Not for the prudish or the squeamish. (D-72t)(Reviewed by Geof Huth)

★★★★★

LIST OF POLITICAL PRISONERS IN THE USSR ($20 from Das Land und die Welt eV, Schwanthalerstrasse 73, 8000 Munchen 2, WEST GERMANY): This edition, published at the end of October, is gratifyingly smaller than those from previous years. But as editor Conrad Lubarsky notes, "the process of these releases is progressing unpardonably slowly". The booklet starts with a reference section on the Soviet criminal code and the various camps where political prisoners are kept, and then profiles briefly all 135 prisoners of which the editors are aware. (A5-72t)

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★★★★★

Jon Longhi, **ZUCCHINI AND OTHER**

STORIES ($2 & 2 stamps from Manic D Press, PO Box 410804, San Francisco, CA 94141): Light-hearted but decidedly strange stories, fantasies set in a world derived from the underground. There's vegetarian terrorists and an orgy that goes on for hours and strange deaths and who knows what else. Jon puts a different spin on everything he touches. The zucchini story is illustrated, with a nice punchline to close the book. (D-20t)

★★★★★

MACHINE GUN WEILDING ZEBRAS FROM HELL (Contact X. Sharks DeSpot, 2225 Montego Dr., Lansing, MI 48912): This appears to be a script for a detective show, featuring lots of violence and a detective who happens to have the same name I do...what a coincidence. It's a bit disjointed and shares some of DeSpot's usual obsessions, including Chrysler and Lockheed. (S-6)

★★★★★

MAIL GALLERY ($12 from Seth Dietch, Fishmonger Grafix Studios, 25 Grant St., Cambridge, MA 02138): This is an attempt to eliminate the middleman in selling art. The book contains color reproductions of 35 paintings by Seth Dietch and Mina Abbate, together with purchase prices ($75 and up) and instructions for buying them. The idea is to use this catalog as a way to preview the paintings. Lots of strange, impressionist portraits here with vibrant colors. (S-40)

★★★★★

THE MARC LEPINE MEMORIAL SCRAPBOOK ($1.50 *CASH/Stamps ONLY* & Age Statement from Frank's Zine, 4417 18th Ave. #166, Brooklyn, NY 11204): A collection of news clippings on Marc Lepine, the guy who shot those women up in Montreal, and his day in the university with a gun. Thoroughly disgusting. (S-48t)

★★★★★

Christopher B. Martin, **EVERYTHING I SAY IS A LIE** (SASE (?) from Route 1, Box 373, Charlottesville, VA 22901): "A guide to spiritual practice for fools", this single-sheeter lays out a series of axioms and rules for dealing with the world ("Elvis: Not only has Elvis left the building, he's dead") and closes with an offer to solve problems for money. A parody (I hope) of many other total systems. (S-1t)

★★★★★

Mychele, **LOVING THYSELF** ($1 from PO Box 1892, Tempe, AZ 85280-1892): Erotica which lots of people are going to find hot in its simplicity. It's basically a two-page description of masturbation to orgasm, lovingly written and very warm. (D-4t)

★★★★★

Mychele, **THE TANNING BED** ($3 from PO Box 1892, Tempe, AZ 85280-1892): A short story that goes from reality to fantasy to reality back again. Rather erotic stuff, from the female point of view. The ending is a bit surprising and leaves the reader free to fantasize off the page. (D-8t)

★★★★★

NULL (3/$1 from Joe Franke, 2288 Hawk, Simi Valley, CA 93065): Diary entries from Joe Franke, together with snippets of his correspondence—like the rejection of a t-shirt order because the company didn't want to promote Satanic images. He ruminates about why Christians bug him, what our society thinks of fat people and the difference (if any) between a dollar bill and a crumpled up sheet of paper. (M-12t)

★★★★★

John Ohliger, **THE GOVERNMENT OF BUSINESS & THE BUSINESS OF GOVERNMENT** ($5 from Basic Choices, 730 W. Jefferson, Springfield, IL 62702): A collection of sources and statements looking at the impacts—mostly negative—of government and business on the adult education field. When profits and bureaucracy take over from education, there isn't much left but a steady stream of scandals and ultimately we're all the losers. (S-25)

★★★★★

John Ohliger, **THE TOP STORY OF 1989? FRIENDLY FRAUD?** ($5 from Basic Choices, 730 W. Jefferson #1, Springfield, IL 62702): John Ohliger writes about adult education and associated subjects, in witty annotated bibliographies. This one pulls together an amazing number of stories on the corruption of education and knowledge ion our society—the Famous Writers School, dead students attending classes, airplane games, doctors doing the education in resorts, and much, much more. It's a sad but fascinating testament to the way we commercialize everything, even ideas. (S-42)

★★★★★

Donald O'Malley, **GRADUATED SEX: HOW TO PLAY WITH FIRE** ($6 from DeadLine, 528 W. Figueroa, Santa Barbara, CA 93101): "A Practical Revolution in the Highly Personal Matter of Emotions and Sexual Choices". Basically, O'Malley argues that by separating sex from procreation, by considering sex to involve a whole spectrum of activities and not inevitably copulation, we can defuse a lot of sexual tensions. Maybe so, but it does seem a pretty simple viewpoint on a complex problem. Still, the booklet is light, well-illustrated, and at least it gets on thinking. (D-37t)

★★★★★

OTISIAN DIRECTORY ($3 from IGHF c/o Pope Jephe I, 1 Shelton Plc, Nort St., Heavitree, Exeter EX12RE, UK): The price is pretty reasonable when you consider that this guide to the religious fringes is shipped from England and loaded with color photos documenting obscure rituals with a rubber chicken. They list and review all manner of marginal religious types, from Israel Regardie on down, and also review a bunch of more normal (?) zines. (A4-20)

★★★★★

PART TIME ($3.15 from John Benson, 44 Shady Ln., Storrs, CT 06268): A collection of short stories, in various macabre and related genres, in which body parts plan important roles. I got the most out of Daniel Quinn's "Be Ready to Say Goodbye", a surreal tale of a revolt on the part of the world's stomachs. (D-24r)

★★★★★

Sal Robert Pauciello, **THE SPINAL CORD CITIZENSHIP BLUES SEGUE MUSIC #2 VISUAL LIBRETTO** ($2 (?) from Sal Robert Pauciello, 9 Stanley St., Irvington, NJ 07111): Spacy hippie drawings designed to go with the cassette tape that Pauciello put out, all in a three-hole folder. Nothing too spectacular here, just rock and roll imagery. (S-12)

★★★★★

Joe Peacott, ed., **AGAINST SEPARATISM** ($3 from PO Box 1323, Cambridge, MA 02238): Joe and the other members of the Boston Anarchist Drinking Brigade are to be congratulated for sticking their necks out here, knowing full well they'll be hacked at. This pamphlet, in a series of essays, attacks the notion that freedom-oriented feminists or gays should organize separatist groups or communities. They adduce a lot of reasons to support this point, and if this pamphlet generates debate, they'll be well served by it. (D-37t)

★★★★★

PSYCHO-CYBERNETICS ($2.50 from Corwin Ericson, 14 Webber Rd. RFD, Haydenville, MA 01039): A booklet made by cutting up a batch of classic pulp and exploitation novels and stories and reassembling the paragraphs into one long stream of violence and passion, titillation and love. No original material here, just new juxtapositions. (S-15)

★★★★★

Jacob Rabinowitz (trans.), **KING SOLOMON'S BOOK OF LOVE SONGS** ($1 from Verlag Golem, PO Box 3414, Providence, RI 02906): This is a new translation from the original Hebrew of the Song of Solomon, stripped of all the allegory interpreted into it by millenia of priggish Biblical scholars. Jake translates it as a nuptial ceremony, with reference to those of modern Syrian peasants, and makes it real, immediate and even a bit earthy. (D-21t)

★★★★★

THE REVENGE ORGANISATION (£5 to join the Ryder book club plus £7 for the booklet from Ryder Publishing, BCM Box 3406, London WC1N 3XX, ENGLAND): Another one in Ryder's series of books about male domination and female submission. In this one, two young women are kidnapped by the Rache Organisation in the service of a powerful client. We get to see one of them attempt to resist her slavery while the other happily accepts it. Some hardcore sex and sadism makes this one tough to circulate in its own country. (A5-48)

★★★★★

REVOLUTIONARY SELF-THEORY ($1 from OVO, PO Box 23061, Knoxville, TN 37933-1061): A rewrite of a post-Situationist text which had past lives in **THE SPECTACLE** and **SPECTACULAR TIMES**. It's intended as a manual to help people construct an inner revolution, based loosely on some Situationist insights as well as on other revolutionary traditions. There's plenty to chew on here, even if you don't agree with the fine points. (D-9r)

★★★★★

Luigi Russolo, **THE ART OF NOISE** ($1 from Paul Rydeen, PO Box 207, Ft. Lyon, CO 81038-0207): The first in the "Futurist Manifesto Reprint Series", this is of course a classic. Russolo writes of the need to expand the horizons of music by including more industrially oriented sounds in the orchestra, and makes some suggestions as to how this is to be carried out. (D-8r)

★★★★★

SAMMY GUMPSTEIN: HILLBILLY PROPHET ($1 (?) from Jim Conatser, 113 N. Booth St., Dubuque, IA 52001): This is the story of a retired Jewish junkman who builds a temple out in the sticks and dies brokenhearted because people won't worship there. But eventually he spawns a huge faith. Why this story? I dunno; it's curious bu the point (if any) is left as an exercise for the reader. (M-16)

★★★★★

Trent Sands, **REBORN IN THE U.S.A.** ($11 from Loompanics Unlimited, PO Box 1197, Port Townsend, WA 98368): There are a lot of books out there on getting a false identity. This addition to the pack is essentially a guide to using them—which ones have the best info on birth certificates, which ones on credit, which ones on drivers licenses, and so on. Sands lays out a master plan for using these references to build a new identity, with cautions on the points where it's easy to unintentionally leave a trace. (D-53t)

★★★★★

Gerald L. Sprouse, various pamphlets (50¢ & SASE each from PO Box 830, Ooltewah, TN 37363): Gerald has a variety of short bits of writing he is willing to copy for those who are interested in ideas well off the beaten path. Most are only a page or two long. **THE TRUE CAUSE OF MOST CANCER** proves to be food additives and homogenized milk. **THE ULTIMATE DEFENSIVE WEAPON** tells how to make a child's toy into something reasonably discouraging to most attackers (this one is $2 & SASE0. **GENESIS ACCORDING TO ST. GERALD** is a rewritten creation story. **RELIGIHOLICS** is an atheist polemic, as are **WHY SHOULD I MIND IF YOU 'SMOKE' RELIGION** and **THE CHURCH OF THE REAL.**

★★★★★

Reed N. Tell, **SAINT PAUL'S GAY HERITAGE?** ($1 (?) from PO Box 1821, La Porte, IN 46350): Tell apparently believes he has proved from the Bible that Paul was gay, but this is only part of his thesis that "Christianity is the generic counterfeit of Jesus Christ's unwanted church, formulated by the popular alchemist St. Paul's witchcraft". I'm afraid I can't make much sense of this mishmash of writing in all-caps and Bible quotations, but some will find it amusing. (M-16)

★★★★★

Graham Trievel, **IVIN INFO** and **THE DEVIL IN MY MICROWAVE** (SASE from Graham Trievel, Box 481, Rte. 113, Lionville, PA 19353): A pair of single-page flyers from Graham. **IVIN INFO** explains the mysterious history and current questions about a local cookie company. **THE DEVIL IN MY MICROWAVE** is a very short story about a case of Satanic invasion cured by a bowl of oatmeal. (S-1)

★★★★★

UNOWNED WORLDS (50¢ in stamps from Any Salyer, PO Box 1551, Royal Oak, MI 48068): There's two parts to this. First is a selection of "Fiddlin' Ed's Plantation proverbs", deadpan humor from Blaster Al Ackerman. This is followed by Salyer's computer-driven rearrangements, providing an almost infinite store of Southern cracker sayings making maddeningly little sense. (D-8)

★★★★★

VARIATIONS ($1 from Marge Simon, 1412 NE 35th St., Ocala, Fl. 32670): A 'mini-artfolio" or Marge's drawings, which tend towards the fantastic. She has a distinctive flowing style which imparts a lot of motion to these pictures, and a predilection for night scenes that suggest outre stories. I wish I knew some of the tales behind these pictures. (D-12)

★★★★★

Ken Wagner, **A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE HONKIES** (75¢ from Ken Wagner, 511 W. Sullivan, Olean, NY 14760): For "honkies" read "ruling class". This is a cynical look, in words and pictures, at all the wonderful things which Europeans and their descendants have done from about the 1500s onward. It's not a pretty picture. (D-16)

★★★★★

Ken Wagner, **RITZ PIT** ($2 from 511 W. Sullivan, Olean, NY 14760): A "sex comedy" which refuses to adhere to many literary intentions. (Most of the sex is off the page, too, where it won't get the reader too excited). The characters constantly discuss things in a meta-story fashion, hopping out of their level of reality, only to wander back in again. The plot, such as it is, revolves around a lot of torrid affairs and gossip centered on a club and aphotographer. (M-40r)

★★★★★

WAKELEY'S REALISMS: THE FAMILY FUND ($1.00 from Joseph Wakeley, 9 Oregon Ave., Palmyra, NJ 08065): A two-page explanation of how "different ethnic and religious groups" accumulate capital to buy out America by pooling their earnings. I don't see a whole lot here that I would pay for. (S-3)

★★★★★

WAKELEY'S REALISMS: ALL ABOUT MASTURBATION ($1.00 from Joseph Wakeley, 9 Oregon Ave., Palmyra, NJ 08065): A short pamphlet about masturbation. Wakely starts by denouncing the various myths used to stamp out this practice over the ages—and then suggests that ti will make you go blind, only very slowly. There's a few other idiosyncratic ideas about the solitary vice here as well. (S-3)

★★★★★

WAKELEY'S REALISMS: THE EMERGENCE OF THE JOCK-STRAP MILLIONAIRE ($1 from Joseph Wakeleym 9 Oregon Ave., Palmyra, NJ 08065): A pamphlet about the high salaries paid to professional athletes. Joseph traces this to free agency, supply and demand, and then argues that it's wrong anyhow and consumers should boycott the games. (S-3)

★★★★★

Jason Walters, **GERONDISSA** (45¢ postage from 526 Haight St., San Francisco, CA 94117): Send Jason a few stamps and he'll send you a selection of his works including this one. **GERONDISSA** is two short plays, the first about creation, the second about enlightenment. Both are surface-funny and deep-thoughtful. (M-8r)

★★★★★

WANK ART COLOURING BOOK ($10 from The Other Wankers, PO Box 159, World Trade Centre, Melbourne 3005, AUSTRALIA): A selection of drawings by E. M. Christensen, which combine images of sex with phastamagorical bodily distortions and bloodless violence—sort of a perfusion of Bosch, Beardsley and Dali. The idea, says the introduction, is to turn people off to sex with others and encourage wanking instead. Curious. (A4-32)

★★★★★

Tom Ward, **THE SITUATIONISTS RECONSIDERED** ($2 from From Left Field/Downtown, 151 First Ave., New York, NY 10003): A look at the origins of Situationism and (more exhaustively) its development in the San Francisco bay area in America. Ward was heavily involved, and he does a service in sorting out some of the grouplets and individuals involved, as well as the theoretical positions. He sees (or saw; the essay dates from '83) Situationism as still having something to offer a Left mired in Old Left and New Left thinking. (S-25t)

★★★★★

WARLORDS OF SATAN ($9 from ParaCult Network, Breviabox 514, Frejgatan 6, 11421 Stockholm, SWEDEN): A manifesto for a Satanic group which proclaims the sort of survival of the fittest/exploitation of the masses stuff that the World Power Foundation has become famous for, rather than black masses and ritual. The most interesting note is their claim to have a strong cell within the KGB. (A4-18)

★★★★★

George Zeller, **THE PIRATE RADIO DIRECTORY, 1990 EDITION** ($9.95 from Tiare Publications, PO Box 493, Lake Geneva, WI 53147): An exhaustive guide to some 100 North American pirate radio stations, with notes on format, frequencies, when they've been heard and (when available) QSL addresses. Zeller knows his stuff, and this update of last year's book is more entertaining than ever. A must for the curious shortwave listener. (S-72)

MOVERS & SHAKERS
BARNES

NETWORKING THE NINETIES

by John Held, Jr.

In this follow-up article to the previously published **Eighties Mail Art Networking**, I have attempted to show how various recent occurrences such as political events, topics of interest, specific exhibitions and new communication technologies are pointing toward directions the international mail art network will likely pursue in the present decade.

In the course of the article, I have used the terms *mail art* and *networking* interchangeably. Networking has become a commonly accepted term in mail art due to the concept of the *Eternal Network*, which was developed by Robert Filliou in the late sixties. This was used to describe "an international center of permanent creation" in which participants were composed of "someone starting someone stopping". And while contributors to the Eternal Network are composed of a revolving cast, the network itself remains everlasting.

This has proved to be true of mail art, whose greatest contribution has not been the creation of specific artworks, but rather the creation of an open democratic structure in which participants can exchange art and information, and in the process of doing so, learn about the ways the artistic experience is communicated.

Late in 1989, I received a letter from a Finnish rock critic who had just visited a mutual friend in Romania. He wrote to tell me that my Romanian correspondent had not heard from me in some time and wondered if it was because of censorship from the Romanian government or because I had no time to write him.

After telling me of conditions in Romania ("You also need a license if you want more than four people in one room at the same time, whether they are Romanians or not."), he went on to explain that "you can understand how much it means for _____ and other mail art people in Romania to have some contacts outside. But the secret police confiscate everything they don't understand, even if it isn't clearly against the regime. So it does not matter if it is not political; if they're not sure, they stop it. _____ is worried that you may have not received his letters for some such reason and begs you to know that he always replies to your letters to him if you would continue to write to him even if it may seem that he has not replied."

I must admit that at times when I write platitudes about mail art fostering "international artist cooperation" and establishing a new "global vocabulary" sometimes I have my doubts. The flicker of light is so small that you never know if the sparks can be seen. And then a letter like this arrives and confirmation exists that yes, one person can make a difference. At least with one other person.

Soon after the letter arrived, the walls tumbled down throughout Eastern Europe. It meant not only greater political and social freedom, but also artistic freedom for the numerous artists who labored under government repression for so long. It can safely be said that mail art played an integral part in keeping their lines of communication open throughout difficult times.

In a letter dated December 12, 1989, Gyorgy Galantai, one of the more active Hungarian mail artists, wrote about the catalog he enclosed:

"I am glad to be able to send you—after six years—this **Commonpress Hungary** issue. Though this catalogue was finished in January 1984, due to political circumstances (the exhibition was banned, I was under police "control", all my collaborators were frightened) only some copies could be printed with xerox technique."

"Now finally in a more liberal Hungarian Republic I can publicly show again the once banned material and publish the **Commonpress 51** catalogue the way and in the quality I always wanted to."

Even the Soviet Union has been exposed to the ever widening ripples of the mail art network. The October 1989 issue of the slick Soviet art journal **Iskusstvo** carried an article on mail art written by Serge Segay with the title, "Where the Secret is Hidden".

So as we enter the nineties, we find ourselves in a much more open world. A world in which the free flow of information becomes even more a requisite of a continuing harmonious global situation.

One direct consequence of this new openness is the *Sacred Run - Europe 1990* project which will take Japanese mail artists Shozo Shimamoto, Ryosuke Cohen and Mayumi Handa through East Germany, Poland, Finland, Norway and the Soviet Union (Leningrad, Tartu, Riga, Kiev and Moscow). "The Run for Land and Life is a call to people worldwide to move away from the Path of Destruction towards a Path of a healthier and more peaceful Life initiated by Native American and Japanese Peace Movements." Providing support services for the Native American Indian runners, the three Japanese mail artists will post art and information on their car from mail artists worldwide. In preparation for the *Sacred Run* (August 6 - October 13, 1990), the mail art community has offered not only their art, but sleeping facilities to the caravan. And no doubt, the Japanese mail artists will be joined on the tour by their fellow artists. The success of this project will do much to stimulate other such global collaborations by mail artists throughout the nineties. Mail art can often serve as a springboard when postal relationships result in personal contacts and are put to use for cultural and social purposes.

Mail art is constantly evolving, but it is an evolution that occurs away from the mainstream art establishment. As we proceed into the nineties, it is still very much a "hidden secret". Even though there are repeated calls for a more socially committed art in the art press, mail art is ignored in its discussion. One of the reasons for this is that the genre demands involvement. To know mail art is to do mail art. Articles like this can only hint at its preoccupations and concerns, but in truth, they are as varied as the number of people who participate. But certain ideas tend to sweep through the network with a life of their own. The major preoccupation of the moment is *Art Strike, 1990-1993*. If followed to the letter, the beginning of the nineties is going to be a very fallow time for an explosive medium. But I don't think that many networkers will be full-time adherents to the concept. It's just too problematical to be practical at the moment. And as we will see, *Art Strike* is more a starting point then an ending.

Art Strike serves a purpose in the current situation of mail art. It is a cleansing agent which is intended to get artists thinking about why they make art and whom they serve by doing so. After talking to Stewart Home, who originated the concept, it is my opinion that the concept is intrinsically connected to the English class system and an understanding of the extreme right and left politics that hold sway over there. For this reason, most North Americans, and indeed, those outside of England, find the whole of the arguments difficult to grasp.

If the political impact of *Art Strike* is somewhat tempered by an unfamiliarity with British class structure and politics, it is easier to relate to the aesthetic concerns of the Art Strike Action Committees. Writing in **Smile** magazine, Home discusses mail art, the commodification of art, and the differences between art and creativity:

"The term Mail Art is however a misnomer. The written, drawn, painted and printed words, images and objects are exchanged in kind, they are not mediated by the more advanced monetary exchanges of the capitalist epoch. The vast majority of pieces exchanged have no monetary value and so cannot be considered art, a sub-division of reification which is characterised by a high monetary exchange value as well as an ideological content. Some pieces of 'postal art' might be commodified at a later date and traded for money but this is a potential unlikely to be realised in the for-seeable future, and until it occurs the artifacts concerned cannot strictly be considered art. Most 'Mail Art' pieces are produced because their 'creators' believe that the labour put into these productions is somehow of 'moral value'. For the people involved the work ethic has taken a quasi-religious significance which is conceptualised as 'creativity' (the idea that intellectual and image producing labour are their own reward and should be pursued by the virtuous regardless of whether one is being paid for doing so). Followers of this creed often confuse the terms 'art' (those products of creativity which through a random selection process have come to be used by capitalists as a means of storing surplus value when the monetary economy is being ravaged by inflation) and creativity..."

"Of course our analysis may be incorrect but at least it can be put to the test. For the three years between 1990 and 1993 we will be abandoning all forms of creativity, activism, cultural intervention. Three years is the minimum period over which the impact of such a strategy can be assessed: We do not necessarily expect to overthrow capitalism by the end of this period as no doubt the recuperators of both the left and right will do their utmost to maintain the endless reproduction of the system we oppose..."

The dialogue created by *Art Strike* has jolted the mail art community like no other action since the *Worldwide Decentralized Mail Art Congress* concept of 1986 when some 500 artists from 25 countries participated in over 80 meetings.

After a somewhat hesitant and confused initial reaction ("Pretentious Drivel Strike (1990-1993)" reads one rubber stamp), mail artists have embraced the *Art Strike* concept in their characteristic irreverent, socially engaging and creative manner.

In a collaborative audio project, the Crackerjack Kid (Chuck Welch) sent out a **Art Strike Mantra, 1990-1993** cassette to be recorded and returned to him for compilation. The **Mantra** reads in part:

We want to show you a strategy for attaining art strike nirvana: We want to show you how you can fight art as status, art as commodity
art as hierarchy
Our strategy will help you lose your egotism,
self importance,
self indulgence,
self esteem.

From Yugoslavia, long time mail art participant Andrej Tisma writes;

"Now that I have learned the reasons for the international *Art Strike 1990-1993* I declare that I will support it, but in Yugoslavia the country where I am living and making art an *Art Strike* would have no sense because:

1. There is no art market here yet.
2. Prices of artworks are so low that you don't sell at all. You make art for pleasure, philosophical and creative reasons.
3. We have only a few art critics and curators, and they have no power or influence upon artists.
4. You don't have to pay the galleries for having your own exhibition, but galleries pay you for that. Shows are not commercial at all, as alternative artists can exhibit in official gallery spaces.
5. The serious culture hardly exists here. It is repressed by the primitive peasant culture, so our aim is to develop and support culture here.

So I am suggesting to all art strikers to come and settle in Yugoslavia during the period 1990-1993 and continue in making art and exhibitions."

While he has ceased to publish **Photostatic** magazine during Art Strike, Lloyd Dunn has begun distributing **Yawn: Sporadic Critique of Culture**. Dunn writes that, "The *Art Strike* offers the most aggressive and consistent critique available of the status quo of production and consumption and its power structure." And something called *Forced Art Participation (FAP) 1990-2001* has surfaced in **Yawn** in an attempt to "integrate the mental set 'art' into the daily routine of all individuals."

My personal way of dealing with *Art Strike*, 1990-1993 is to examine the reasons for my own cultural participation. To see if art is an egotistical projection of the self upon others, or whether after fifteen years of participation in the international mail art network I am able to avoid the term art altogether and instead forge some new hybrid of art and life towards the implementation of a world view that allows me some measure of personal comfort.

It is because of *Art Strike* that this intensive questioning has occurred. And no doubt, there will be even more questions asked and newer strategies developed to reach even more far reaching conclusions during the period 1990-1993.

Home's statement that, "Some pieces of 'postal art' might be commodified at a later date and traded for money, but this is potentially unlikely to be realised in the for-seeable future...", is already being challenged and is likely to become one of the main issues confronting the medium in the nineties.

From December 7 through 30, 1989, the Davidson Gallery in Seattle, Washington, held an "International Invitational Artistamp Exhibition", curated by James Warren Felter of Vancouver, Canada. Felter hosted the "Artists' Stamps and Stamp Images" exhibition at Simon Fraser University in Burnaby, Canada, in 1976, which was the first time that artist created stamps were collected for viewing by the public. An excellent catalog was also produced at the same time making it among the first printed items that the literature of the field produced. So when Felter issued a call to artists early in 1989 to submit editions of signed and numbered stamp sheets for exhibition and sale, he was given the respect he deserved as a pioneer of the medium. But his request raises several important questions for mail artists, both of which will be more fully examined in the coming decade.

The questions raised are the *sale* of mail art, or mail art related, objects, and whether the *invitational* show and publication will make inroads into the traditionally open nature of the classic mail art exhibition ("no fees, all work shown, documentation to all participants"). Let me first say that I was one of the mail artists who accepted Felter's request to participate in the Davidson Gallery exhibition. This was due to his historical importance to the field and a belief that mail art, when properly curated, could enter the gallery system and compete, both visually and conceptually (but not necessarily financially) with any other art being produced today. In addition, even though artist postage stamps could be successfully marketed through a gallery structure, it does not mean that they could not still be given as a gift through normal mail art exchange. Each method of distribution could exist within its own proper framework.

But then I received a call from a collector of "cinderellas". This is a branch of philately that deals with postage stamps, seals and labels, which have no official value for mailing purposes. Just recently a book has been published called **Lick Em, Stick Em: The Art of the Poster Stamp**, which deals with one aspect of this particular field of stamp collecting.

The call I received was due to the collector/dealers' interest in the artist postage stamp due to his exposure to the field through the Davidson Gallery exhibit. As a dealer, he wanted more information and sources about the field so he could promote the collecting of the artist stamps to his customers. I suggested he contact the mail artists active in the field directly and from their submissions put together a catalog. This would give him an overview of the field and involve him in the process of mail art. The mail artists, on their part, would appreciate the interest he showed, and a nicely produced catalog could also contribute to the development of this still evolving genre within mail art.

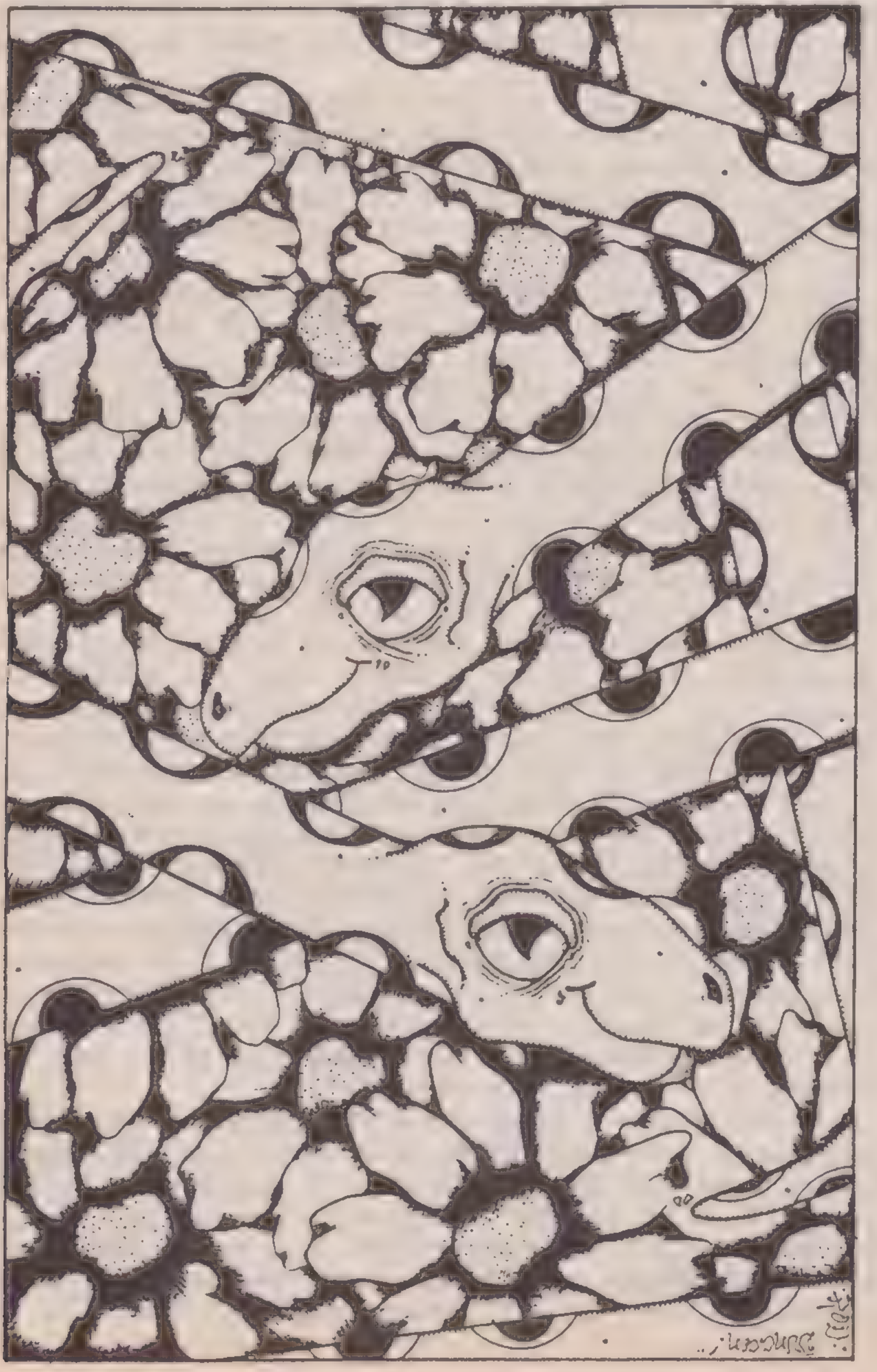
Instead the dealer issued a letter to mail artists, which I received second-hand, asking "to let us know what you currently have available so we can discuss the details of either purchasing your works or handling them on a consignment basis." Furthermore the dealer stated that, "I hope we can establish a relationship that is not only mutually beneficial, but beneficial to the advancement of Artists' Stamp collecting worldwide." But this is never going to happen when one side of the "mutually beneficial" team doesn't care enough to find out what the field is really about. Any other form of involvement is bound to be superficial. And just like Ronny Cohen during the Franklin Furnace/Artist Talk on Art imbroglio in the eighties, the quick-hit curator or collector is bound to get burned by mail artists who are rightfully angered by people who would misrepresent the field for their own personal interest or gain to the detriment of a free and open network.

One dealer who is going about it correctly is Barbara Moore, proprietor of Bound and Unbound in New York City. Barbara's husband Peter was the "photographer of record" for Fluxus. His photographs saved many of the otherwise lost moments of Fluxus performance. Together the Moores have been tireless champions of Fluxus, and Barbara has written about the movement in such magazines as **Artforum**. Her curation of the exhibition, "The Page as Alternate Space" at Franklin Furnace was a penetrating look at artist designed publications. Just recently Moore curated an exhibition called, "The Book is in the Mail", which featured such artists as Eleanor Antin, George Brecht, Buster Cleveland, Pawel Petasz (**Commonpress**), Robert Fillious, Henry Flynt, Gilbert and George, Guerrilla Art Action Group, Ray Johnson, On Kawara, George Maciunas, Mieko Shiomi, Daniel Spoerri, Wolf Vostell and Robert Watts. In her introduction to the exhibition catalog, Moore writes:

"This exhibition is not a survey of mail art. It's intentionally limited to ways in which artists have used the mails as a process for the production and dissemination of book-like or sequential works. It's about 'mailed' rather than 'mail' art, about communication, subverting established procedures, and the increasing internationalization of the avant-garde which, before the fax machine, employed the post office as the most efficient means of eradicating geographical and institutional boundaries."

People are still cautious about the institutionalization of mail art, but mail art is sure to attract it's share of attention in the present decade in the context of the fine arts. And the results will be both good and bad. It's always interesting to see how a previously subversive and ignored activity, such as Fluxus and the Situationist International, are institutionalized by the art establishment. I think in the coming decade this will begin to happen to mail art. But I've been thinking this since 1978, so really, who knows.

The other question raised by the Davidson Gallery exhibit of artist postage stamps is whether the invitational approach to mail art is at odds with its' democratic nature. The open structure of the medium has caused mail art to grow to the proportions it has. Everyone who wanted to has been able to participate. There are few roadblocks to newcomers. Most projects and publications follow the same guidelines as exhibitions: an open call goes out for submissions and all who answer are included. From time to time, an organizer decrying the uneven quality of contributions will attempt to limit his project to invited artists only. And while the organizer is certainly within his rights to organize his project in the manner he or she sees fit, this invitational approach diminishes the spirit of openness in mail art. In truth, people who employ this approach reveal more about themselves then the art They are usually reaching the point of burnout. The openness and uneven results can sometimes get to people who want to exact control over the network. It's like trying to control the ocean: it goes where it wants, and no amount of control is going to make it smoother or flow in a specific direction.



But let me return to Barbara Moore's statement about the FAX machine now being the "most efficient means of eradicating geographical and institutional boundaries." Is FAX a compliment to mail art, or a threat? Does its' increased speed expand the effectiveness of the technology over the postal systems' slower arrival time? We will probably begin to sense the answer to these questions in the nineties.

In the January 18, 1990, issue of **Artweek**, there appeared a review of the exhibit, "Information", curated by Robert Nickas, which contained some seventy pieces FAXed to Terrain Gallery in San Francisco by such mainstream artists as Peter Halley, Nancy Spero, Vito Acconci and Hans Haacke. Like a mail art show, entries were simply push-pinned to the wall. The author of the review, Anthony Aziz, writes that, "If the FAX is essentially the visual manifestation of a telephone call, its single most important advantage for art is its ability to provide a new vehicle for distributing information. A medium artists can exploit like other fringe non-gallery media—mail art, video, cable TV, street art, performance." The review also refers to a Summer 1989 exhibit at Capp Street Project in San Francisco with artists from Border Arts Workshop, who installed an "international FAX network". This component of the exhibit "was intended to bridge communities across both geographical and economic borders, making advanced communication technology available to those who might not otherwise have access to it."

There is obviously a place for FAX in the mail art network. At the very least, as a way to meet last minute show deadlines. At the very best, to utilize a medium which has a faster pace then the postal system. Mail art will use FAX technology, as it does any communication technology, in a manner the artist deems fit for the particular situation.

Computers are another technological innovation seeing increasing use in the mail art network and have been a topic of discussion for several years. Guy Bleus (Belgium), Charles Francois (Belgium) and Ruud Janssen (Holland) have written about the impact of computers on the mail art network. Pawel Petasz, a pioneering mail artist from Poland, has held a computer mail art show entitled, "Square 88'. Fred Truck from Des Moines has compiled a computerized listing of conceptual performance events, which has attracted a lot of mail art participation. A yearly **Report of the Performance Bank** is published in connection with the project.

It seems as if there are several directions mail artists are taking the new technology. Computer works are being sent through the postal system, networks are being established by modems, information is being stored for fast retrieval and updating, and discs are being created as actual art objects.

One of the finest examples of computer generated graphics I've seen are the artist postage stamps created by Gene Laughter of Richmond, Virginia, who was active in the network a few years ago. By the use of a scanner, Laughter took mail art related imagery culled from the network, as well as his own designs, and created some of the finest artist postage stamp graphics seen in the genre. Charles Francois uses a video camera to take portraits of mail artists who visit him in Liege, Belgium, and adds them to his mailings. I wish I knew more about the subject then I do. But I will, as I've just obtained a Macintosh. It seems like in the United States this is the model of choice, while in Europe most mail artists use Commodore and Atari systems. This is not a big problem for the *transmission* of information, as standardization prevails in this aspect of the technology.

In 1983, Ruud Janssen started publishing his **TAM Bulletin**, a mail art publication which circulated information about mail art shows, publications and projects. After it reached a circulation of 400 copies, Janssen decided to stop publishing it in printed form. In 1988, the **TAM Bulletin** was "computerized so that each new bulletin could be 'uploaded' into two central computers. After the bulletin is uploaded it can be read by anyone having access to a computer with a modem." (Ruud can be reached at HCC-Fido Tilburg - 1 Tel. Nr. 0-13-563150 or Infoboard-Venray Tel Nr. 0-4780-88119)

I'm currently working on the finishing touches to a research project I've been working on for several years. **Mail Art: An Annotated Bibliography** is entered onto computer discs and is being put into camera ready form via Pagemaker. Computers are obviously the archival tools which we must begin to deal with. And the foundation of most mail artists are their archives. Charles Francois lists all the mailing he sends and receives, mail art shows he enters, and makes notations whenever his correspondents include his RAT symbol in their correspondence (for a future project). With this information he plans to issue a **"RAT Belgium Annual Report"** each year.

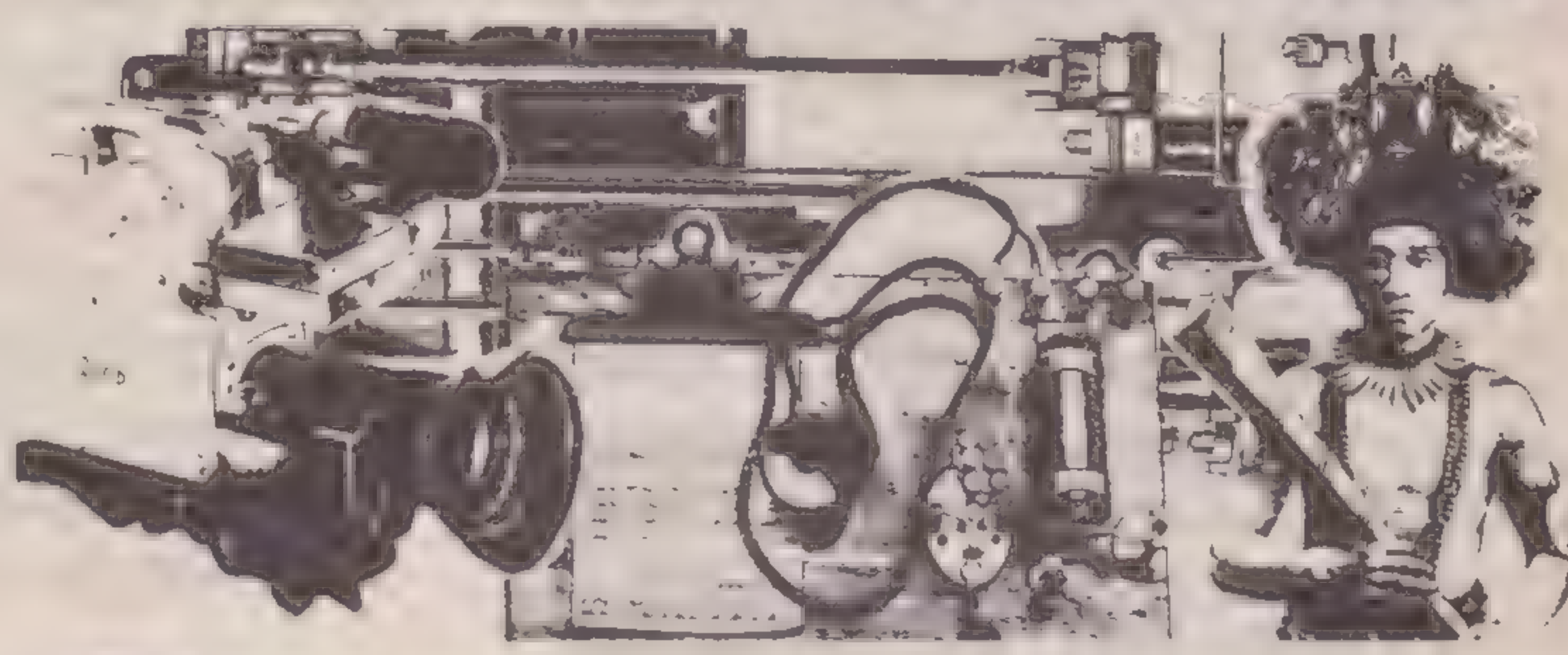
Guy Bleus, one of the key theoreticians in the network, has just joined the computer age. It will be interesting to see what uses he makes of the technology as he possesses one of the finest archives in the world. An earlier project of his, which listed all the **Commonpress** editions, is an exemplary mail art documentation project. Bleus writes that, "The transformation of 'mailed-art' into 'electronic' mail-art (or 'computer' mail art, or 'P.C.' mail-art, or 'modem' mail-art, or 'online' mail art, etc.) will provisionally not menace, but extend the existing postal mail-art network with recent technological facilities."

Others are working with computers as electronic paint brushes and as artworks in and of themselves. Eric Finlay, who lives in London, England, and is in his 70s, has taken to computers like a duck to water. He has forsaken his considerable talents as a painter (he taught Carlo Pittore at the Slade School) to work extensively with the Amiga computer. Rod Summers, who is well known in the network for his audio work in connection with the VEC Archives, is doing something I find very interesting. He creates "environments" on the computer, which can be manipulated by the user. Interactive artistic computer environments I guess you would call them. At any rate, they are artworks created on the computer, sent out as artistic software to other artists.

In conclusion, the nineties will be a time of new ideas, of continuing debate on issues vital to the network and of increased experimentation with emerging communication technologies. The eighties were a time of self-reflection in mail art: Crane's **Correspondence Art: Source Book for the Network of International Postal Art Activity** was published, which provided the first extensive overview of the medium; the Decentralized Worldwide Mail Art Congresses were held; and the Franklin Furnace Controversy continued the schism between mail art and mainstream art. This self-reflection will continue as long as the medium lays unexamined by others.

The mail art network is fortunate in being composed of a dedicated group of participants who give unselfishly of themselves and in so doing expand the network. Publishers of mail art magazines like Daniel Plunkett of ND (Austin), Francois Duvivier of **Metro Riquet** (Paris), Dobricia Kamperelic of **Open World** (Beograd), Vittore Baroni of **Arte Postale!** (Italy), Gilbretto Prado of **Wellcomet Bulletin** (Sao Paulo), Anna Banana of **Banana Rag** (Vancouver), Daniel Daligand of **Le Timbre** (Paris), Joki Mail Art of **Smile** (Minden, West Germany), Shigeru Nakayama of **Shigeru Magazine** (Kyoto), Shozo Shimamoto of **AU** (Nishinomiya, Japan), Lloyd Dunn of **Yawn** (Iowa City), Judith Hoffberg of **Umbrella**, and Eamonn Robbins of **Mail Art Portraits** (Dublin), among many others, spread the word to others and document the everchanging flux of the network.

In the **Artweek** article that dealt with the FAX exhibition, the author stated that, "These artists, along with others in the show, belong to, and emerge from, a non-object, idea-based idiom that peaked in the late 60s and early 70s". This seems to be the prevalent view of mainstream critics: that mail arts' time has come and gone. That Ray Johnson was interesting, but those that came after him were doomed to repeat the past. This just isn't true to those who have followed the evolution of the network. This will become more apparent in the nineties, for mail art is a vital process of participation which serves as an umbrella for new talent in a variety of disciplines, be it graphics, audio, publishing, performance, conceptual, computer or written arts. Rather then fracturing into separate unities, these disciplines are nurtured by the vitality and internationalism of the mail art network. Mail art will expand in the nineties, because the world is becoming more open and artists are eager to communicate with one another. Network artists will continue to explore the world around them and interpret its changing condition.



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Fangoozine	#1	funny punkzine, Bob Z., Problem Children, reviews, more	.90	2 oz.
Fanzine That Had No Name	?	w/ Bad Religion, Christ on a Crutch, Wrecking Crew, more	.15	3 oz.
Feedback Fanzine	#3	w/ Moral Crux, Jesters of Chaos, Infinite Regession	1.00	3 oz.
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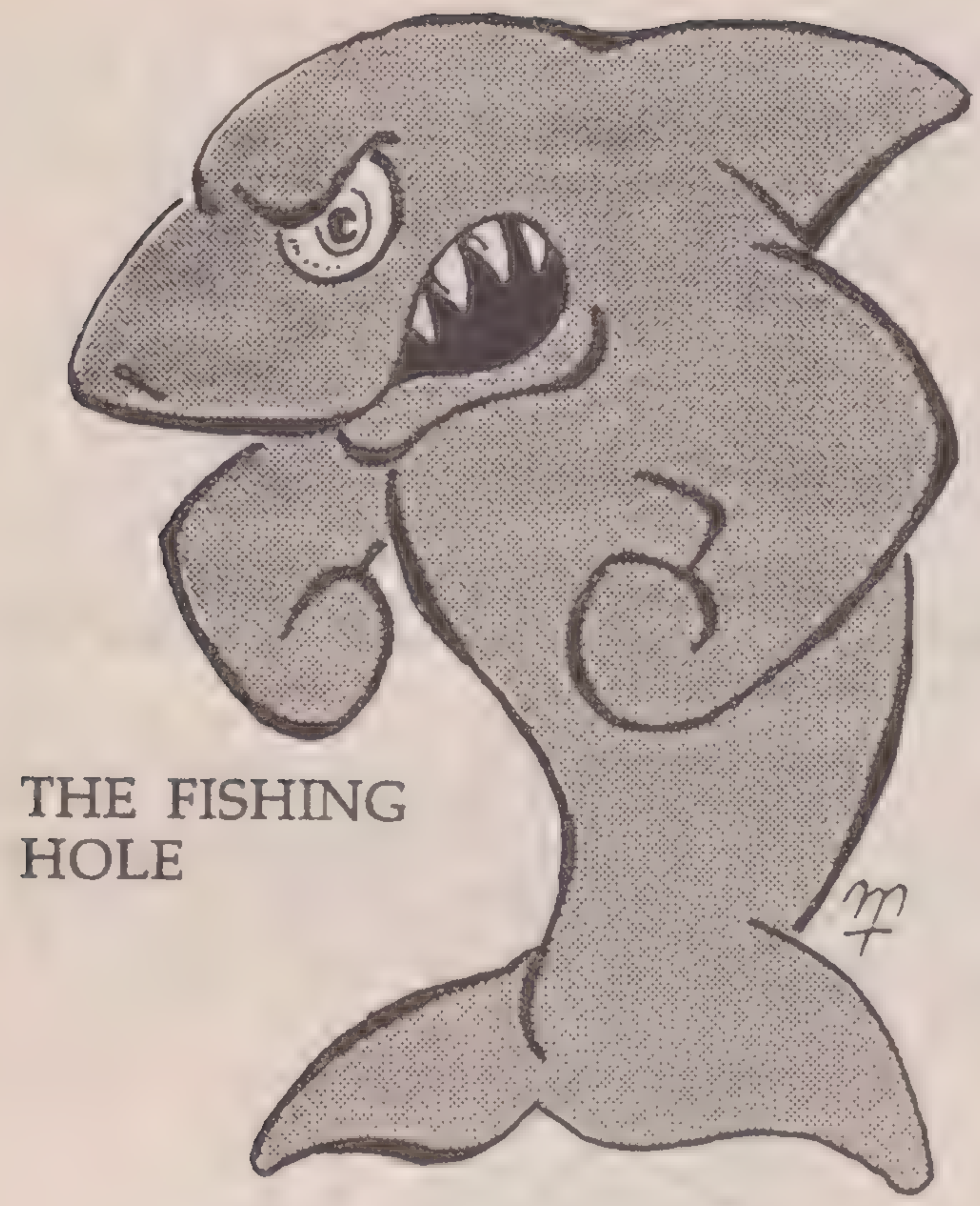


THE FISHING HOLE

by Joe "Kingfish" Lane

Welcome once again to the Fishing Hole. This column is dedicated to the underground/alternative press associations that have either contacted me or vice versa in the last 60 days that deal with helping out the small press.

1. **UNITED FANZINE ORGANIZATION (UFO)** is best known for dealing with the small press comics, so much so that the current chairman Steve Keeter has suggested that the name of the group be changed to "UFO Comics Co-op". The group newsletter, **TETRAGRAMMATON FRAGMENTS**, states that the group has been around for over 20 years and since the bimonthly newsletter is up to #131, this seems about right.

The group has 14 members currently and a limit of 25 openings, It appears to be more of a discussion group than one that syndicates material, although I'm sure that some of the material submitted to the newsletter is reprinted by the members. Those zines wishing to join must send a copy of their publication to the chairman, request a list of member zines, send them copies and then wait for the current members to vote on their application via mail poll in **TETRAGRAMMATON FRAGMENTS**. Cost of TF is $1.25 to members and $1.75 to non-members.

For more information write to UFO c/o Steve Keeter, Apt. 300-F Eastbrook Dr., Greenville, NC 27835.

2. **PACIFIC NEWS SERVICE** is the most professional of the groups listed here and probably out of the scope of most ziners. Still, I'm sure that a few of you might take advantage of the excellent reportage, news analysis and opinion pieces provided via post office each week.

The service deals with stories on the third world, fringes of American culture, and political activism. Currently the group has 62 commercial subscribers (according to the list that was sent to me) with 30 in California. Averages 8 stories a week up to 1200 words in length. Cost to private individuals is $150 per year so I'd suggest sending a copy of your zine, your price and circulation figure and request a price for a trial subscription.

Pacific News Service is located at 450 Mission St., Room 506, San Francisco, CA 94105. Their phone is 4150-243-4364.

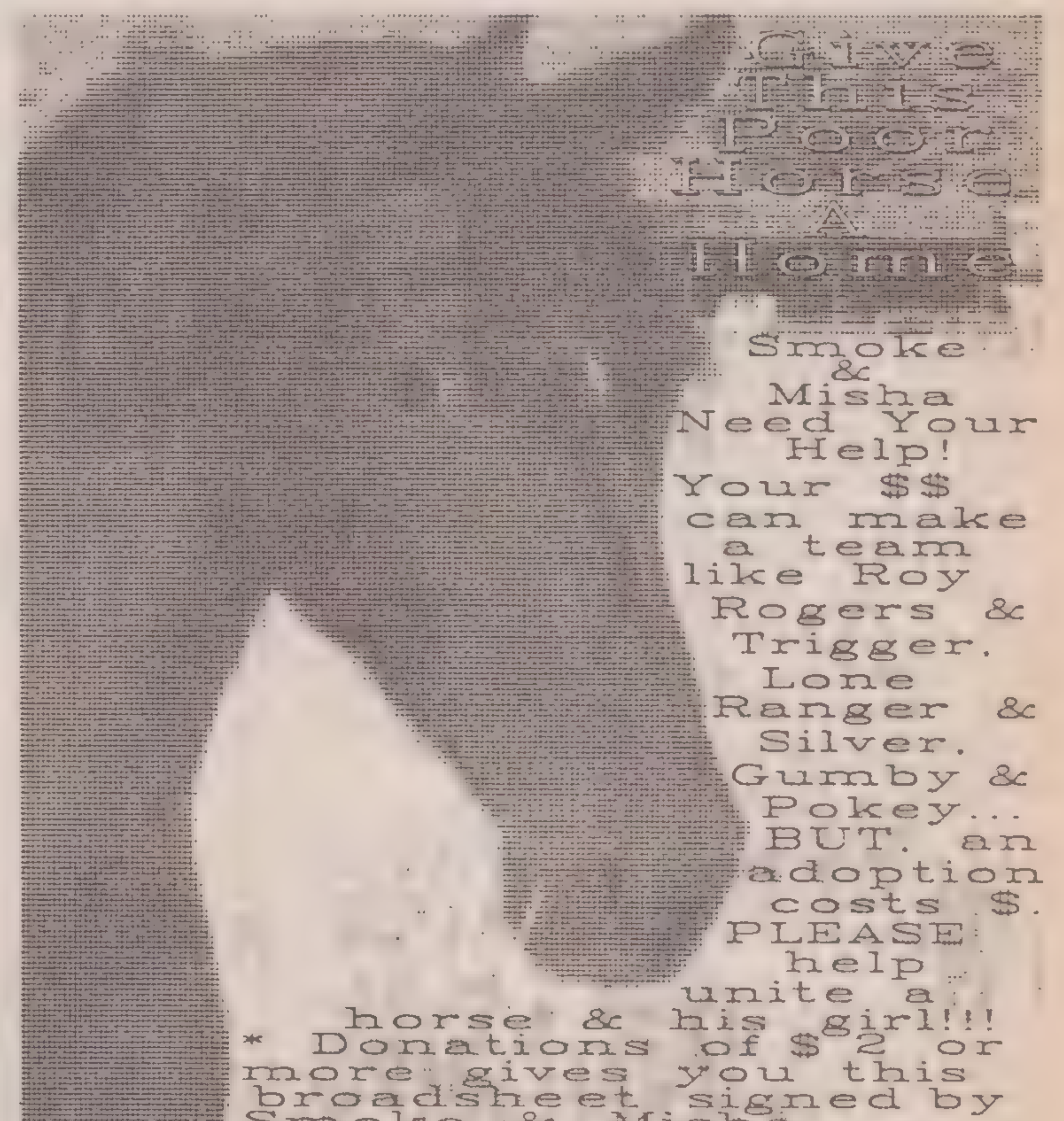
3. **ANet/@ Media Net/Anarchist Media Network/@ Net/Anarchist Network** (How about I just call it AMN?). AMN is a loosely self-organized, voluntary and international network established to encourage and practice mutual aid, inspiration and support in the conception, production, realization and distribution of anarchist media of all kinds. Any anarchist-identified project is welcome to join by declaring its affiliation. Current list of participants numbers 18 as of February 20th. The address is c/o C.A.L., PO Box 1446, Columbia, MO 65205-1446. This is also the address of **ANARCHY: A JOURNAL OF DESIRE ARMED** which is apparently spearheading the group, and is one of the best put together papers in the alternative/underground press. (Thanks for Lev Chernyi for the info.)

4. **WICCAN/PAGAN PRESS ALLIANCE (WPPA)** was formed in September 1989 with 13 members and has quickly grown to over 40 members, WPPA has a newsletter with contributions from members on tips for publishing, problems faced in the Pagan press community and articles that can be reprinted. I don't have much knowledge of this Pagan community, but if your zine is into it, or has a Pagan slant, than this is the best place to start looking for guidance. The address is PO Box 1392, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055. Silver Raven-Wolf is the person to talk to and $3 should get you a sample of their latest newsletter.

5. **SUBTERRANEAN NEWS SERVICE (SNS)** was the hardest one of these groups to track down. It is mainly a Chicago area high school underground newspaper group that helps papers keep tabs on each other's progress. Its main goals are to produce the best papers possible, assist members against authorities seeking to silence the papers, promote formation of underground newspapers where there ren;t any and share ideas and materials.

The leader of SNS is Dave Fornell, who is also central editor of the SNS newsletter **THE VOICE FROM BELOW**. The first issue of **VOICE** came out in January and had stories on the local high school's attempts at censorship, the history of the high school underground press, and ideas how undergrounds can get out of reach of school authorities. The address is 1116 Honey Hill Rd., Addison, IL 60101 and Fornell can be reached at 708-628-0199. Although this group seems to be mostly midwest at present, I think Fornell might enjoy hearing from other high school undergrounds. In my opinion this association has the best chance of organizing the high school undergrounds on a nationwide basis. About $2 ought to get you something from SNS.

6. **NETWORK OF ALTERNATIVE STUDENT PRESS (NASP)** is currently in the formulation state, trying to decide what sort of services they are going to try to provide to members. They had several meetings last year with members of over 20 zines showing up to plan and discuss what problems and needs are facing them. Some of the plans for the future include a "best of NASP" digest of stories from the papers involved; compiling lists of national advertisers interested in the zines as media to carry their information, and traveling to areas where papers need to be started. To join



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editors should send a request for joining and a copy of their zine to the Committee of Correspondence at 700 Eshleman Hall, Berkeley, CA 94720. Once they get the mailing list of other associated NASP papers, they should start exchanging papers with them. Currently there are some members who are outside the scope of the "student" press involved, but the majority of papers seem to involve people under 30 with a college background, But this is a generalization and not a constant. To contact NASP, you can also call 415-658-8268.

★★★★★

In my last column I spoke of the big two underground press groups of the 1960s, the Underground/Alternative Press Syndicate and the Libertarian News Service. A few people have told me I wasn't thorough enough. Well, I wasn't trying to be as I have to keep my columns short enough to not bankrupt Mr. Mike or spend half the Canadian newsprint supply to get this column together. But here's some more I've been able to dig up so far.

HIPS. This High School Independent Press Service in New York was started in the fall of 1968 and ran until the following January. It had 60 papers involved and cost $2 for high school undergrounds, and $4 to all others for biweekly packets of news. The time consuming project caused quick burn out and the staff decided their time was better spent on other causes.

In February of 1969, just a month after HIPS folded, FRED started up in Chicago. FRED had a high of 250 subscribers as of July 1969 and was publishing 48-page weekly packets of news. It charged $2 per month to poor organizations, $4 to less poor organizations and $10 to commercial media. FRED, which didn't stand for anything, folded in the fall of 1969.

Alternative Features Service was a weekly service out of Berkeley and by January 1973 was up to packet 77, volume 3. Rather than being reprinted stories from other newspapers these appeared to be first run material.

Earth News Service was operating in San Francisco in 1976 and was an FM radio news service used by alternative papers for short filler pieces, most being 3 to 4 paragraphs long. It was described as containing hip cultural news, some muckraking and liberal perspective on straight news. Also described as having "the habit of stealing from the straight press without attribution" in the **DO-IT-YOURSELF GUIDE TO ALTERNATIVE PUBLISHING**, which also provided info on the next three groups.

Zodiac News Service, also of San Francisco at the same time, was another radio news service used by the alternative press, It had a more responsibly radical outlook and was more politically activist than Earth News Service.

Community Press Features, Cambridge, Massachusetts, had a progressive socialist bias serving working class oriented local papers in both communities and workplaces. Goals were to relate specific problems of work and consumption (inflation, working conditions, etc.) This was a free service with lots of graphics and statistics.

Peoples Translation Service, Berkeley, was a socialist, non-sectarian group. It sought to serve a left alternative, women's, third world constituency by informing them of ongoing struggles ignored by the establishment press.

CHIPS, the Cooperative Highschool Independent Press Syndicate was a service of Youth Liberation in Ann Arbor, Michigan. It was a newspaper exchange for high school papers who sent in 50 copies to CHIPS and in return got papers from other areas of the country.

FPS was also a service to high school papers from Youth Liberation, offering news and graphics at $5 per year for 13 issues published every 3 weeks during the school year.

Florida Young People's News Service was a biweekly news service to elementary through high school students and drop-outs at $3 per year.

One last group to be discussed is still in operation but beyond the scope of zines usually reviewed by Mr. Mike. This is the Association of Alternative News-Weeklies (AAN), This was founded in 1977-78 by a group of mostly free papers like the Chicago Reader, Boston Phoenix, and Isthmus in Madison, to share information and discuss trends facing the papers. Yuppie papers is what I'm trying to say, though good papers when considering what they are competing with in their respective areas. The president of AAN is Bob Roth, editor of the Reader (11 E. Illinois Ave., Chicago, IL 60611.)

This column is dedicated to my friend, Lori H., who has taught me not to give up when things go wrong and whom I dearly admire, I hope someday to see her stories in print, for they should be.

Upcoming column ideas include a whatever happened to...people involved with the original underground press (can anyone dig up Ray Mungo's address for me?), comparative costs of publishing, how to tips and next issue's column, "What's your worst experience since beginning to publish?" Anyone wanting to help out with any or all of these ideas is welcome to write to me at PO Box 4083, Terre Haute, IN 47804-4083.

In my research on the underground press of old, I have come across two pamphlets which some of you might like to read. The information is highly dated but interesting anyhow. They are **HOW TO START A HIGH SCHOOL UNDERGROUND NEWSPAPER** by Youth Liberation (a 16-page digest) anf **HOW TO PUBLISH YOUR VERY OWN UNDERGROUND NEWSPAPER** by UPS (a 12-page standard size). I will copy them for research purposes and for a buck you can get either one.

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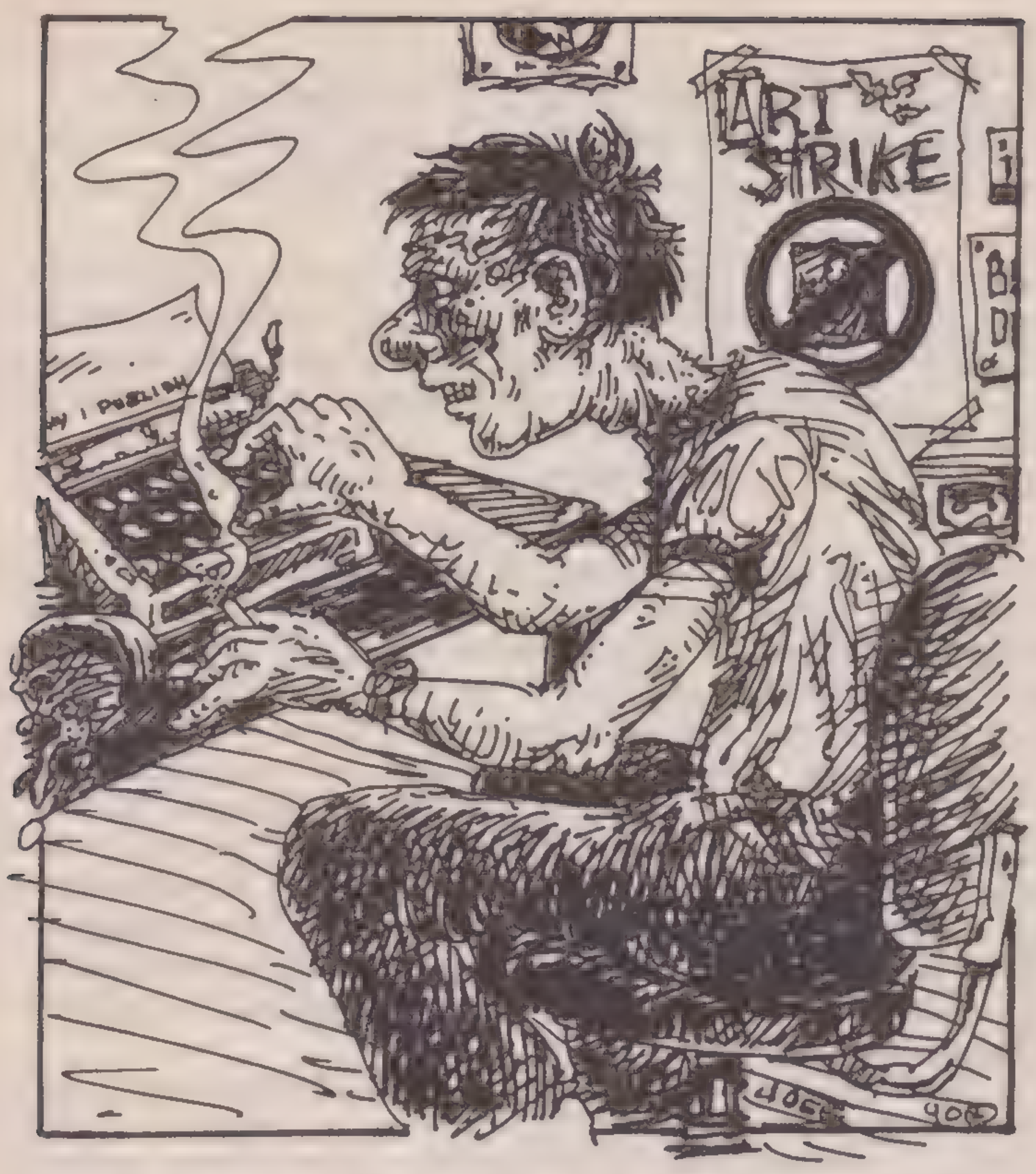


WHY PUBLISH?

Bill Meyers, III Publishing:

I had never thought of setting up a small press until neither my friend J.G. Eccarius nor myself could find a publisher for **THE LAST DAYS OF CHRIST THE VAMPIRE**. I had helped with community and political papers for years, so I knew I would be in for a lot of work and no financial remuneration, However, just the thought of having this book in print and read by people made me howl with malicious laughter, so I took the plunce.

I made some mistakes, but fortunately a lot of people liked the book. Then one day I got a letter from A REALLY BIG PUBLISHING HOUSE. They wanted to see the book to consider it for reprinting.

Well, anyone who says that being published by a corporate publishing company and reaching hundreds of thousands of people is no thrill is probably lying. Eccarius might get the audience he deserved, and I might get a rest. I told myself, however, that they had not yet seen the book. I sent them a copy.

A few weeks later there was a message on my answering machine saying she (the assistant editor at the mega publisher) loved the book and was proposing to the editorial board that they buy the rights to it.

A few days later I finally managed to get her on the phone. Unfortunately she had already met with her cohorts and superiors, who thought publishing the book was a bad idea. However, they might take it if we *changed the title* and if it turned out that J.G. Eccarius was the pseudonym for a well known writer. She thought the book was really written by Robert Anton Wilson. She still thought the book was great and wanted to work on her superiors.

Doubtless she is a good person, caught in the bowels of the beast that is the publishing industry. But still a bit naive, thinking that an empire would risk its reputation printing a book like **THE LAST DAYS OF CHRIST THE VAMPIRE**.

Probably she was embarrassed that her corporation judged books by their authors rather than the authors by their books. But reality is, they needed an excuse not to publish it, and she can't keep her glamour job and self image if she doesn't accept their excuse.

So to wrap things up, she sent me a letter the other day. They decided ultimately not to publish the book because "the writing needed a bit more polishing, with more focus on a fewer number of characters and scenes more fully developed."

Should those of us in the small press speculate as to what excuse they would have made had the book been "more polished" [plastic], "with more focus on a fewer number of characters" [more hierarchical and authoritarian] and "scenes more fully developed" [doing our readers' thinking for them]?

No, we should keep publishing the best material we can find, keep finding ways to market it to those people who aren';t already brain dead, and generally, look forward to the day when Greed and Social Control are no longer able to monopolize the publication and distribution systems in this world.

★★★★★

James Wallis, **SOUND & FURY**:

A good question: why do I publish? Sometimes I'm not sure myself. I am trying to make both a name and a living as a professional writer, and wasting my time with a strange little zine which has been known to emerge in print runs as low as ten copies seems like madness.

There are four reasons, as far as I can tell. Firstly, as I mentioned I'm a writer. If I wasn't trying to make money from it, I would still write. Saying that one is a writer is like saying one is British: it's there, it won't go away and one just has to live with it and take the consequences. So I write. And every so often I get a strange concept which tucks itself away in a corner of my mind and like a magnet begins to attract ideas to it. After a while it's attracted so much that it gets too big and begins to clutter up the space that I use for thinking about my other, paying projects; and I have to do something to get rid of it.

The problem is that since I acquired my first word-processor, I've developed this difficulty of thinking of any project as "finished". There is always a temptation to re-load a file and add something to it, So whether I write down the Idea or not, the only way I can finally exorcise it is to see the thing printed. There's something about the smell of photocopy toner that tells me that I can go and get on with the next project. (Warning! Kids! Toner may smell good but *don't* use it as a coke substitute!)

The second reason is that I've been self-publishing since I was 14. I am tired of seeing fanzines in a standard format. I would like to do something to change that. I'd also like to try to raise self-publishing itself (rather than the material published) to the level of an art-form. When was the last time you heard of a fanzine that printed one copy, sealed it in a bottle and hurled it into the ocean?

Third, it's a neat way of keeping in contact with friends.

There is a fourth reason but it escapes me. And that's important too. If you can analyse exactly why you Do Your Own Thing, then you're half-way along the road to giving it up. The bottom line is that I enjoy it, and that's good enough for me.

★★★★★

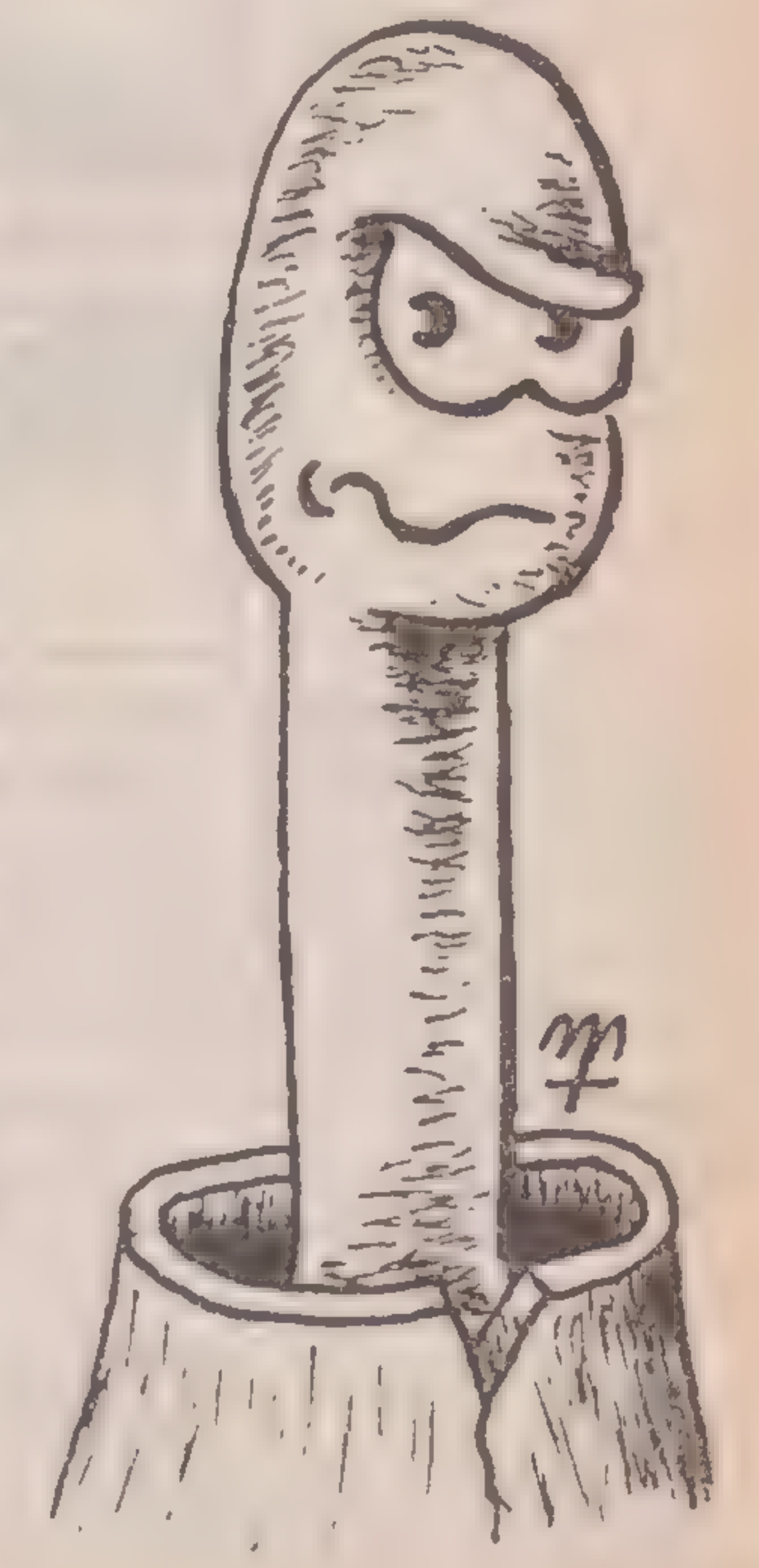
Joe Workman, **FUNNY PAGES**:

Why Not? I've always been a big fan of the small press. A while back I had collected lots of twisted humor, mostly from co-workers & issued it on floppy disk. I called it "Sick Humor for the Commodore 64" and tried to sell it mail order (still available for $10 from me at 154 S. Hedges St., Dayton, OH 45403-2222). Most computer publications refused to run the ad, and those that did were already on shaky ground & quickly went out of business. The result was poor sales.

After reading issue after issue of **FACTSHEET FIVE** (the best publication on earth) I noticed the lack of "joke type" publications. It suddenly dawned on me that I had enough material to start a zine & keep it running for a while. I found my niche. Hopefully by the time I run out of jokes, the submissions from readers will keep the project self-perpetuating. I would like to hear from anyone with anything funny to share; it doesn't have to be sick, though there is a sizable portion of the community that enjoys Dead Baby Jokes, Helen Keller Jokes, Ethnic Jokes, etc....

★★★★★

(Got a reason why you publish? Write it down, send it in, and more than likely it will end up in these pages.)



CONSPIRACY CORNER

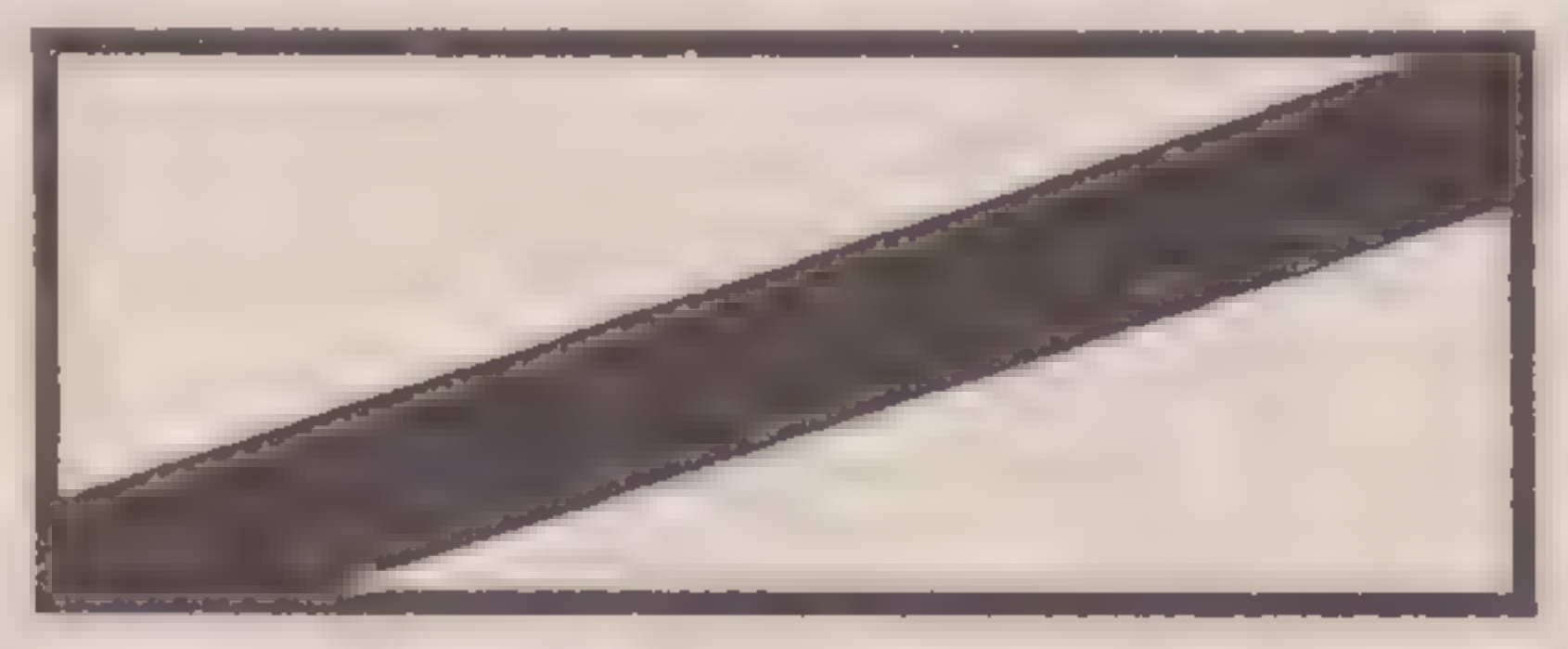
by Kerry Wendell Thornley

To get at the source of the problem we have to uncover the events near the end of WWII involving the Nazis going underground. Dulles and Himmler's people in Switzerland, etc., Because—whatever happened—the Nazis wound up dictating their own surrender terms, except for the partition of Germany which they didn't prevent. All the Allied plans for trust busting of German cartels were canceled. And of course the proof is in the pudding: the races they deemed most inferior are perishing, mostly of starvation.

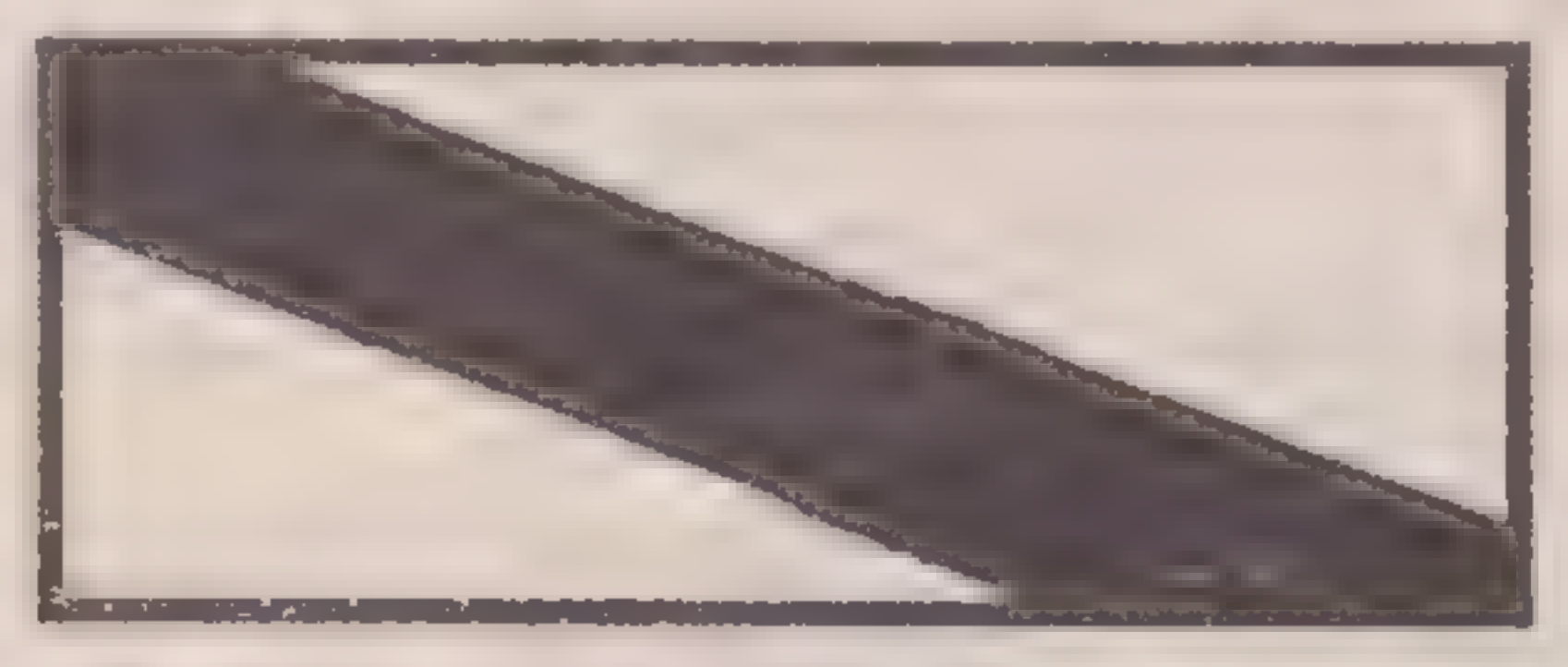
So—although I'm very much in favor of educating the masses about the nature and desirability of communist anarchism (in fact I think it essential)—I think that trying to organize a communist anarchist revolution in Vichy France would've been no harder. [Æditor's note: Kerry has revised his position on this point since this piece was written. See the "Letters" column in this issue of FF.] To the extent that an ideology to guide resistance to state power is necessary at this time, I think the "definitions and distinctions" of Hagbard Celine in the Illuminatus! Trilogy are sufficient—i.e., they wouldn't endorse siding with landlords or corporate cartels against government, etc., since that only makes for invisible rule by secret societies, etc.

Yet on the other hand they aren't so far to the left that they demand a level of maturity and generosity of which a much-oppressed and hassled and distracted working class is incapable. In this, practically no one—except possibly the Russians (some of them, maybe secretly) is in agreement with me—and maybe some of the laissez-faire capitalists who've been in communication with the Russians for many years.

My own family, as I understand it, is in a conspiracy that looks like this:



Wilson and others belong, I think, to another conspiracy that looks like this:



I was unaware that I was involved in any conspiracies. Wilson was investigating the conspiracy that surrounded me. He came up with a number of conclusions—some that were accurate and many that weren't. Anyhow, that's my hypothesis. My ideological ideas are largely the result of my association with Wilson. So they call the Earth—with which Wilson is associated—my adopted element. The so-called "milk", however, which Wilson was investigating, is the conspiracy I grew up in and the one that supports my family. So it is a *very* confusing situation in my view.

★★★★★

The Earth is as I understand things more inclined to oppose landlordism—not, however, very much because it is a cause of starvation. The "milk", which is more inclined to address the subject of famine, isn't in the least opposed to land monopoly or oil majors or first world ownership of third world minerals, etc., so they are no more effective than liberals. Both are principally rightwing conspiracies, though both are capable of leftist rhetoric.

So basically I don't like either of them very much. To make matters worse, the one I like most isn't the one that surrounds me.

★★★★★

Then there is the matter of cultural attitudes—where I take for granted the sexual liberty and tolerance of so-called perversion that I absorbed, happily I think, because of my own invisible surroundings. The Earth, with whom I agree much more about economics, seems absurdly old-fashioned and puritanical to me. So the complications just seem to compound themselves all the time.

★★★★★

What is most confusing of all, to me, though is why I'm expected to explain the same things over and over again, day after day—as if every day there were new people spying on me who were not there the day before and won't be found there again the next day—and why I have to keep begging, over and over, in vain, for the same simple, common courtesies —such as refraining from advising me what to do with my own sexual organs, etc., or from punishing me for conditions that oppress me as much as they oppress everyone else and for which I'm not responsible. These things continue among people I've known for years—although they let it be known in many ways that they've been listening to what I say and reading my notebooks, via frequent oblique references to key terms and themes, etc.

I've said, for example, over and over again that I'm *never* going to think about the possible political results of a sexual act—because it is acts of intimacy for which, among other things, politics is a means, and therefore must always be kept subordinate thereto.

If you depart from that reasoning then there is no cause for objecting to conscription in the name of freedom—i.e., slavery in the name of liberty. And once that process of deterioration is sanctioned there is no stopping it until **Ignorance Is Strength** (secrecy is national security), **Freedom Is Slavery** (the defense of liberty is the draft) and all that other Orwellian stuff.

Which is what we've already got—so there is no point in expending the effort simply to attain the same thing. Yet people continue to tell me that if I masturbate in private it will cause thus-and-such a result, whereas if I masturbate in public or tell others I've masturbated, it will achieve thus-and-such a result and if I make love to a man it will cause thus-and-such a thing and if I make love to woman A, result B will occur—whereas if I make love to woman C, result D will happen. *That* is madness!

If it is true then totalitarian modes are so prevalent that the situation is terribly discouraging. If it is true only among the people resisting the prevailing order, then we are better off with the status quo. If it isn't true, then it isn't a very funny hoax, if you ask me.

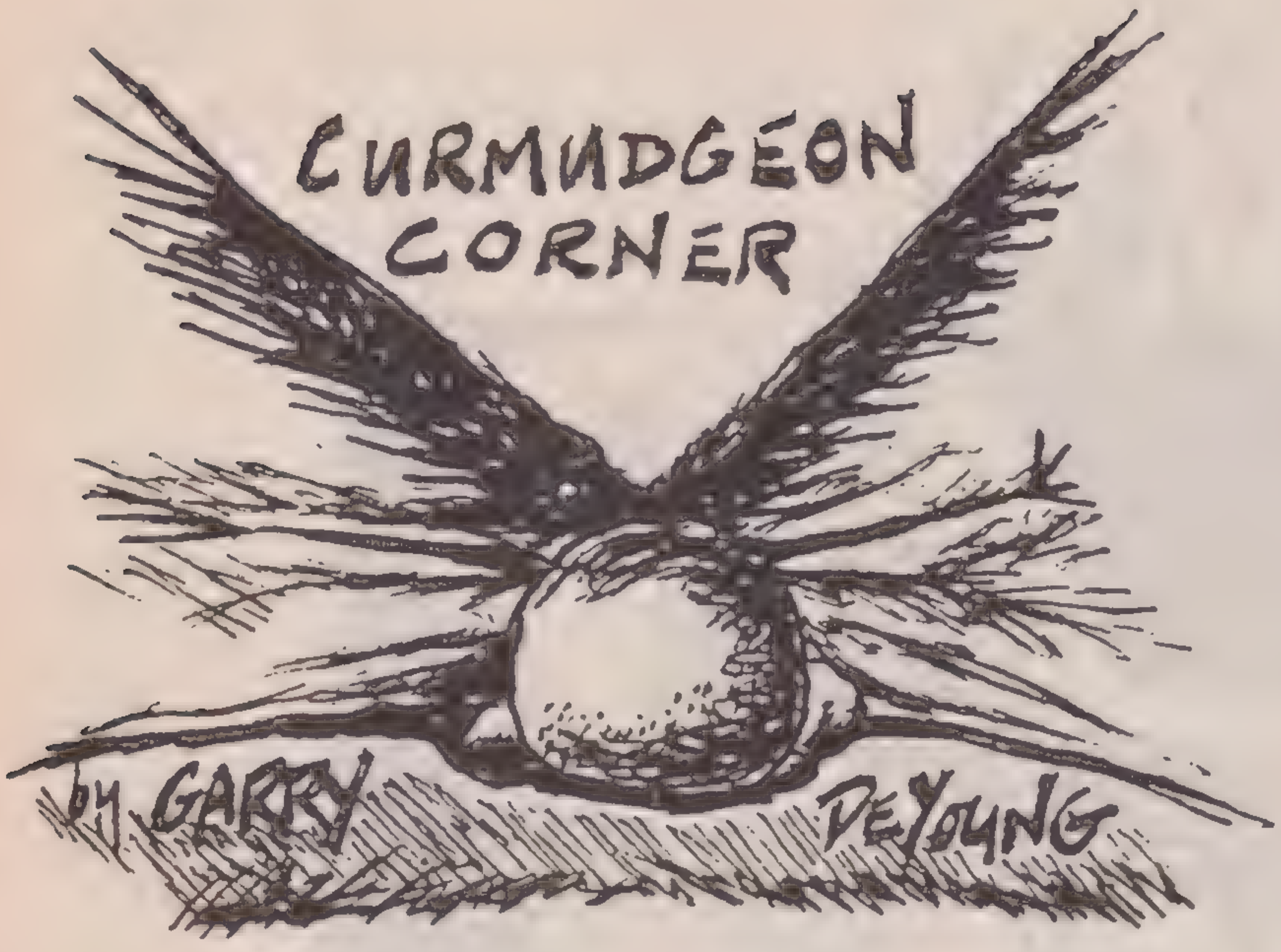
So anyway, I don't want advice like that. I'll let myself be destroyed before I'll heed advice like that.Yet I keep getting advice like that. Every day. Everywhere. From total strangers to my oldest friends. Like they don't understand what I'm talking about. Someday somebody is going to tell me to "come by" or "go home" and I'm going to commit the most hideous mayhem imaginable—kicking them in the groin and gouging out their eyes and sinking my teeth into their ears, etc. It feels like being poked in the groin with a bicycle spoke. Sometimes it is tolerable. Repeated one time too many, or at the wrong time, and the victim might retaliate, however—without significant premeditation, possibly without realizing it is going to happen.

C______ says it is the intelligence community's revenge for having to "carry" my "case". Someone else says it is a crude, Babbitty Masonic satire of Catholicism's rhythm method of birth control—in which case there is more ample reason to hate the masons than the Catholics, since it is bad form to use human beings as raw materials in your artistic projects.

Others insist there is an electronic switch concealed in my scrotum—and that every time I experience orgasm who is spying on me changes. If that is true, *they*—the technocrats—not I—are to blame for the results and there is no way I will accept responsibility for their actions that, for openers, begin with a gross violation of my rights.

★★★★★

[Æditor's note: previous installments of this work appeared in FF33 and FF34.]



WHY GOVERNMENT?

by Garry De Young

The general presumption is that we must have some kind of government but nobody ever asks us why and what for. Only there are assumptions, these assumptions having to do with fairness and justice. But governments do not dispense justice nor fairness and apparently there is no way that they ever can because they represent power and power will always be under the control of those who have the means of access to power, that in the United States being money, lots of it.

Once in power those in control do everything to retain that control and there is nothing to exclude the unscrupulous from government. In fact, our courts are so constituted (after all the laws were drafted by lawyers) that the corrupt and unscrupulous are not only protected, they are rewarded.

One agency of our government is the so-called National *Public* Broadcasting Network. This agency is represented in the courts by state attorneys general and the laws under which they operate guarantee that they reward the status quo, the Establishment.

As of this writing, today, March 16th, 1990, I, received a ruling from the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals in which, after all the legal garbage is sifted out, the bottom line clearly reads that the state, through the so-called Public Broadcasting Network can rightfully exclude from its political programming anyone it does not wish to have the public exposed to his or her views. This is enforced through the strong arm of the courts and means that *in fact*, in America, there is no such thing as freedom of speech despite the lies found in the Constitution and imposed upon us since childhood through the indoctrination centers euphemistically called “Public Schools”.

You won't read about this in your daily newspapers and you won't hear about it over your radio or television because this kind of news is suppressed. So much for investigative journalism.

Only the most naive person is unaware that we have a permanent Congress and that these are on the de-facto payroll of the corporations who give them PAC donations for which they expect and receive rewards.

The Federal Election Commission is supposed to provide us with information about these people in Congress (who are not *our* representatives) who are the patsys and prostitutes busy plying their trade of deceit. Yet when I ask the FEC to provide me with a printout listing the amount of money each senator, each congressman and the President and Vice President receive from banking institutions I am told I can get that information for $81. This is supposed to be *free* information available under the Freedom of Information Act but Congress does not represent us—it *fears* us, and is afraid people will learn that the reason we continue borrowing money from the bankers and thus continue escalating our national debt, is because the congressmen and senators and the President and the Vice President all benefit from that scam.

But this is government! Not *our* government, but the government of, by and for the faceless corporations, of, by and for those who continue desecrating our land and our people themselves.

We, today's Americans, have been cheated of the birthright of self-government and we have been so conditioned through our public school system that we accept this not without a whimper, but with glee.

We see flag burners and much is made of them. But the flag represents liberty and justice for all. It is however, in actuality, not such a symbol at all because it includes the words “under God” and this of course excludes Atheists and so is no longer the symbol our forefathers fought to protect. The American flag has become instead of the symbol of liberty and justice for all, the symbol of hatred and bigotry and for this reason does not warrant the place of honor any longer. Also, keep in mind that at all of our ships at sea the Christian flag flies *above* the American flag meaning that the Christian flag is more important in the eyes of our government than the American stars and stripes. Thus, symbolically, our government, especially our United States Navy and Marine Corps have been desecrating, have been burning our flag right along.

But this makes sense if you think about it for a moment. The government is not ours and so it holds us in contempt and rule in favor of the wealthy, the powerful, the huge corporations, everyone except those who fight for the ideals it is supposed to symbolize.

Governments can be used and *are* used to control people, to keep them in bondage, to build more prisons, to make us wear seat belts, to allow police to enter our homes without search warrants to look for drugs, to stop cars on the road and to inspect the contents of their glove compartments...the list is endless and the American people want it that way because the means of communication, the propaganda agencies euphemistically called communications media, use this influence to impose these values upon these dumb Americans who want to be ripped off by the banks, who want to have their male children mutilated through the barbaric and savage practice of helpless infant circumcision, who want us to continue giving massive subsidies to tractor drivers and bankers and grain cartels in the name of “helping the farmer” when in fact it is the true farmer who is driven off the land by these policies and practices—by government!

If we are to have government it must not be corrupt, it must be fair—and that, in the history of experience is a bit too much to ask.

It is folly to even think of a revolution with guns because the government has the guns. *But we can all refuse to vote* and in that manner express our total contempt with this terribly unfair system and in the process, hopefully, government will fizzle out and go away—or will it? Keep in mind that the people who lie down in front of bulldozers don't understand the ruthless nature of those who are running things today. They fail to realize that the bulldozer will run right over them as will a tank, a locomotive or a police car. When you are dealing with people without compassion don't expect compassion, or deceny, or fairness, or understanding.

There are those who wonder about this Riddle of the Universe: Why are we here? What is the purpose of it all? Is it to kill our fellow man? Is it to treat each other with cruel “objectivity”? Or are we, while on earth such a short time, aware that all this shall pass away, to treat each other as we would want to be treated ourselves?

Is there value in a God who cannot prevent diabetes? Is there value in an Atheist who gains the whole world but sells his soul in the process? Do we need government to tell us what is right and what is wrong? I think not. I think each one of us, from early childhood, knows right from wrong, fairness from unfairness.

Why then, Government?

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IT IS NOT TRUE
That life is one damn thing
after another; it's one damn
thing over and over. —
Edna St. Vincent Millay.
I'd say life is one damn thing
after another over and over
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For a 20th century arithmeti-
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VIDEO
WHEELER

Video reviews are by Belka Stamas (BS) or the Æditor (MG). Videos for review may be sent either to the main FF address or directly to Belka at 1218 S. 11th, Philadelphia, PA 19147. Please send information on alternative TV programs directly to Belka as well. Please enquire before sending Beta-format tapes.

★★★★★

THE AMAZING MR. BICKFORD ($29.98 from MPI Home Video, 15825 Rob Roy Dr., Oak Forest, IL 60452): Bickford is a genius when it comes to claymation. Here's 55 minutes of his work, with music by Frank Zappa (performed by the London Symphony Orchestra). Bickford's work tends to the lysergic, with images melting and transforming into one another: lovers fusing to become one, a phone that becomes a chair that opens up as an eye that absorbs the camera to reveal an entire landscape of deformed trees...there's also some rather graphic (though stylized) gore, making this the first splatter claymation I've seen. No plot to speak of, but interesting in small doses as background imagery. (MG)

★★★★★

DOGGEDY DOG DOG ($29.95 from Radius Press Home Video, PO Box 1271, FDR Stn., New York, NY 10150): A few issues back I reviewed a film called **JUST COWS**, which was 17 minutes of shots of our bovine friends. This one is in somewhat the same vein, only more so: 55 minutes of dogs running around parks and streets in New York (the producers claim over 300 dogs, but I didn't count). Big dogs, small dogs, puppies, running, rolling, swimming dogs, dogs playing with sticks, good dogs and bad dogs...you name it, it's here. It's all set to a jazzy soundtrack (which does tend to become a bit insipid after half an hour or so) by Mark Broder. Pretty good video wallpaper for your next party. (MG)

★★★★★

THE EAT MORE CARP SHOW (c/o The Miami Valley Cable Channel, 1195 E. Alex-Bell Rd., Centerville, OH 45459): This is public access TV at its best: things that could never, ever be shown on a commercial channel, not because of their offensiveness, but because of their strangeness. The basic show format is relatively simple: video cutups and homemade films are mixed with soundbites from all over (Radio Moscow to classic TV), and itnercut with live footage. All of the live actors wear latex monster masks at all times, making for anonymity as well as a certain difficulty in understanding anything that's being said. Finally, cute little public service and inspirational messages fill the gaps between the films and the live stuff. The whole is blatantly confusing, non-commercial, and occasionally enlightening. The program is not for sale, but any public access station or individual interested in gettigng copies can have them for cost. Please write for further details. About 30 shows are available. (MG)

★★★★★

ECHOES/SPARK OF BEING/ROBE-ICS $14.95 from Video-SIG, 1030-C E. Duane Ave., Sunnyvale, CA 94086; order #12506): Three short films which have no apparent connection with one another, except that together they get the running time up to a reasonable 18 minutes. "Echoes" is the best of the lot, a mostly-wordless black and white horror short, in which a woman is driven to madness by the mysterious appearance of dolls all over her apartment. Features quite a bit of more or less gratuitous nudity. "Spark of Being" is an animated version of the Frankenstein story, leaving off where the monster comes off the table after the good doctor. "Robe-Ics" is the newest of the three, shot in a crisp color style that reminds me of many TV commercials, showing a housewife getting her daily exercise by dusting, vacuuming, lifting pots and pans, and so on. (MG)

★★★★★

NO SUCH THING AS GRAVITY ($30 from Verge, 141 West Broadway, New York, NY 10013): Having successfully done film noir with **BETAVILLE**, Alyce Wittenstein here tackles science fiction. Actually, you can read this film on a couple of levels, and I'm happier thinking of it as allegory, since some of the science is pretty thin. The basic story concerns the conflict between Earth (grown repressive and ultra-efficient as capitalism sinks in worldwide) and Nova Terra (a convict planet, though in much better shape than the original) for orbital space, unbeknownst to most citizens of either planet. But crusading lawyer Adam Malkonian finds out, and demands that the scientists who know the score consider which one is worth saving. Shot in a mix of stark black and white for the Terran scenes (shot at the '64 World's Fair site, all harsh angles and optical illusions) and lush color for the Nova Terran side (the contrast is only briefly reminiscent of **WIZARD OF OZ**), this film succeeds in pitting good versus evil in a visually interesting setting. The small-scale production shows in places, but the acting is mostly good (Nick Zedd does well as the slightly unbalanced lawyer, and Taylor Mead is perfect as the senile judge) and the script thoughtful. (MG)

★★★★★

ONWARD VIDEO ($20 from Onward Comics, PO Box 3684, Chico, CA 95927): Probably the only attraction of this video is that it's the brainchild of Jeff Nicholson, the fertile mind behind (among other things) **ULTRA KLUTZ COMICS**. Unfortunately most of the video is poorly exposed, the sound is dismal, and the film quality poor. There's live action skits, computer and hand animation, music videos and claymation, plus a couple of spots where new words are dubbed over other things, like Godzilla or a Kiss interview. The interviews with the artist are mildly interesting, and some of the claymation almost works, but the great bulk of this should have been left on the cutting room floor. (MG)

★★★★★

PEGGY AND FRED IN KANSAS and **PEGGY AND FRED AND PETE** (Leslie Thornton c/o Drift Distribution, 83 Warren St. #5, New York, NY 10007): These two shorts are part of the "Peggy and Fred in Hell" series. "Peggy and Fred in Kansas" begins with dubbed narration sounding like Cousin It, which is basically fast forward, which means we're being thrown into the future. The camera shots as we open go left, or back on an emotional level, and after we're shown a digital display of julian time along with some other industrial shots, we're in the next millenium after the blast. A couple of ten year olds, Peggy and Fred, are introduced in their subterranean shelter. Throughout the short Perry and Fred play grown-up showing us that in the future, we might all have to be more like kids to survive, or, we should start right now. I think the gist of the piece if "Toto, I don't think we're in Kansas any more". In "Peggy and Fred and Pete" we begin with a flock of ducks on a pond with the soundtrack of a martial arts movie fight scene piped in. Cuts of rushing streams, icy rushing streams, played backwards, flow through till we see Peggy and Fred emerge from their hole in the ground and take a stroll through the prairie. Fred finally heads back and when she's alone, Peggy sees something she runs away from. With a great visual effect, we're told by a typeface scroll moving through the prairie that Peggy has just seen—dead ducks. The moral of this story on nuclear weapons is "Pete and Repeat are in a boat. Pete falls overboard. Who's left?" Although the images in these two shorts are far from slick, the editing is good and you don't feel like you've just spent five days on an ocean liner during monsoon season after the screening is completed. As strange as they are, they're very well done and anybody into experimental vid with a narrative slant will enjoy them. (BS)

★★★★★

THEATRE OF ICE, "Live at Gallery X" ($15 from Orphanage, 1702 W. Camelback #315, Phoenix, AZ 85015): A live videotape of TOI performing some of their greatest hits plus songs from their new album. The sounds quality is reasonable bu the video itself is pretty rocky, marred by inadequate lighting and pointless use of postproduction SFX. In fact the only song here that really benefits from the visuals is "Television", in which a guitar is finally used to smash the glaring eye of the TV screen. But whether the visuals work or not, the sound is a good example of TOI's gloom and gothic rock, (with one foray into their punk past) and the eeriness of their work combines with the spontaneity of a live performance to give it new dimensions. (MG)

★★★★★

THREE SHORT FILMS by Martha Keavney ($10 from Martha Keavney, 418 Madison St., Hoboken, NJ 07030): Three humorous video documentaries written and directed by Martha. "The Making of 'The Love of Two Women'" talks to a pretentious film director about an equally pretentious film, intercutting his babbling about bison and Proust with shots of two wooden actresses declaring their love for one another. "At the Reviews" steps back from the idiot box and allows Randy Hoppe and John Hamilton to evaluate a couple of television movie reviewers as to whether they're worth watching or not. "New Voices in Poetry: The Yo Generation" is the best of the lot, a documentary of a working-class poetry movement in Hoboken which spouts some of the most gawdawful typical bad poetry imaginable, including "Be As Bad As Suck My Liver" and "Die Businessman Pig". These films suffer from poor equipment and the basic problem of using all actors in their twenties to play mature characters, but they're funny and would go well on all manner of public access shows. (MG)

★★★★★

VIDEO NOTES

•Membership in the **Association of Independent Video and Filmmakers** is $45 per year. For more information, write them at 625 Broadway, 9th Fl., New York, NY 10012.

•**Downtown Community Television** is having a second festival for works to be screened at their facility and on Manhattan Cable. For info write: DCTV Video Festival, 87 Lafayette St., New York, NY 10016 or call (212)-941-1298. (BS)

•**Films by Alan Sondheim** (Drift Distribution, 83 Warren St. #5, New York, NY 10007) is a work available for exhibition with the filmmaker present. Drift will make a preview videotape available on request and will help to arrange appearances and/or performances. (BS)

•**MPI Home Video** is now releasing 4 *Dark Shadows* video cassettes each month. For more details call them at 800-323-0442.

•**Paper Tiger Television** (339 Lafayette St., New York, NY 10012) has produced an extensive series of videotapes analyzing the print media, which have gotten a lot of good press. A typical program is something like "Stanley Aronowitz reads *The New York Times*: A Timely Look at Labor". For more information, send for their latest catalog.

•**Trinity Square Video** (172 John St., 4th Fl., Toronto, ONT, M5T 1X5, CANADA) conducts a batch of workshops for people who want to learn the basics of 3/4" video production. For more information, drop 'em a line.

NTSC CYBERBEAT

by Belka Stamas

The most difficult aspect of working with people is working with people, especially is there's no one around to work with. Last month I narrated an experimental vid parodying performance art for a friend of mine. In becoming involved, I broke my cardinal rule of not getting in front of the camera, but the man needed warm bodies and I had to compromise. A month prior, a local indie went through proper channels at one of the country's largest regional theaters and held auditions for a female lead. It was a nonpaying part, but a sincere project with documentation provided by the press stating the producer's past record, current distribution channels and positive feedback on the script scheduled to begin shooting. After spending over a hundred dollars in camera and room rentals, ten bucks on flyers and about eight hours of organization time, the producer and two cronies waited for three hours on a sound stage. Nobody showed.

A philosopher once said, "If it looks like a duck, and walks like a duck, and quacks like a dick, then it's a rose." Independent film or video in all genres isn't that yellowbrick road leading to the great emerald city of Oz. It's a great way to develop yourself and often allows for creative freedom id you know what you can do with your equipment and budgets, even if there is no budget. In working on the performance art parody, I had a long talk with the director, an artist that's been making experimental narratives for fifteen years. Between 1975 and 1980 his output was ambitious, doing seven shorts in half a decade, but once the 80's rolled around, things changed.

He told me that in the late 70's you'd have no problem finding quality performers to act in a short. Down filled nylon Hulk parkas, platform shoes and halter tops were the norm along with an abundance of artists willing to crash in someone's "pad" for extended periods of time to finish the production on a worthwhile project. He didn't know if it was the introduction of arts management as an academic curriculum, the institutionalization of the "underground", the economy, or just plain ole lack of interest, but finding qualified actors became a chore the last ten years. Because professional technical artists will volunteer equipment and a weekend or two to get away from industrial or commercial work, his last five projects have fallen into the experimental visual category.

I got a lot out of narrating the improv piece. With each scene granted one or two takes because of the time factor, I began to understand the nuances performers experience when under pressure. My job was fairly easy from using the Carl Perkins "Act Naturally" school of delivery, but the day's work wasn't so simple for the leads, two artists whose specialties are in other media. The leading man is a ten year vet of the "happening" or performance art, while the screen siren choreographs modern dance and plays keyboards in a synth pop band.

They did a great job of interpreting the bell curve of your typical boy meets girl story. Although a bit nervous navigating uncharted creative waters, professionalism in their respective media of choice enabled them to draw on skills kin to acting and with the help of the director, pull a fast one. The only motives they had in agreeing to act in the short was the Woody Allen theory that "90% of life is just showing up", and when the twenty hours of shooting was over, the crew wanted to do a comp shoot of the next performance in their areas of expertise.

Although getting qualified actors to volunteer time on a no or low budget piece is difficult, it's not impossible if you develop some sort of track record. David Boone out of Austin is the best example of Ragged Dick the Match Boy in alternative film today. His latest short *Everyman* (reviewed in FF32) was done on a budget of twelve thousand dollars and all actors involved received minimal, if any, stipend for professional services rendered. One woman with feature length experience paid her own expenses to fly to Austin from New York to work on the film. However, this isn't David's first effort.

About six years ago he began his career doing a forty minute super eight narrative *Aluminum People*. *Aluminum People* starred most of David's family coated in Reynolds Wrap for some great low budget sci fi effects. If you take in consideration half the case were his in-laws you know the man made some supreme sacrifices in getting a project off the ground. Can you imagine asking your mother-in-law to spend a few Sundays running around on a beach looking like the Tin Man after he'd been hit by a car? For an art film no less.

When *Aluminum People* was finished, David shopped it around to some of the art houses in Austin and during one screening Jonathan Demme was in the audience and liked all the films so much he brought them to New York for a showing that was well received by the critics and favorably covered by the press. Mr. Demme has since used one of David's films in his movie *Something Wild*. What's important here is the "you have to have something to get something" concept which is usually unavoidable.

San Francisco and New York are actors' towns and if you're living in one of these cities, there shouldn't be a big problem finding a good cast, even with a shoe string or loafer budget. But when in the heartland, which usually means New Jersey to Nevada, alternative sources for creative talent are usually required.

Other indies are good contacts for info about the local talent pool. They might know some of the department heads at regional universities' performing arts centers with an abundance of young theater people looking for film and video credits. On a small warning note, a friend used this method and found from trial and error that she should have interviewed more candidates because they were students and students are students. If she had to do it all over again, she said she'd interview for two days instead of one and make sure she paid them something, even if it was just twenty-five dollars, to insure more control during the production when you're more worried about lighting and camera angles than someone's dissatisfaction with a line. Local producers are also a good source for established talent that just want to work, and if they've got some stage, industrial or commercial acting experience, the flow of your production will be void of bugs. Fellow film makers themselves know how to hit a tape mark.

Performance artists and musicians can be more than beneficial in rounding out a cast. With a plethora of live light seasoning, they're not afraid of making mistakes while getting into character and really take to the camera. Musicians formerly involved in the recording process will also lend a hand in your soundtrack and audio mix, contributing information about what goes into transforming an acoustic rough to electronic polish. If they happen to own a four-track and are proficient in utilizing their machine to the max, you'll be really surprised what they can do with a drum machine and a Les Paul or Fender.

Playwrights often make good actors because most of the time they come from an acting background. They're used to the directorial, writing and performance process and if you're in a dramatic flow jam during a scene, a bail-out is not uncommon as they wear the hat of script doctor. Many of these writers are drawn to experimental film or video to branch out into another medium and they are also a great source for thespians.

Your options in gathering a cast are limitless. On a restricted budget the only stars you'll probably find are on the side of a can of Armour ham, but smoke cured artists get the job done. What's more important, is before you can begin to staff characters, especially if it's your first venture, you've got to have a readable script. Everyone's got good ideas.

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SIDE TWO
33.3 rpm
0. Horn Intro (1:01)
1. We Got Soul (2:20)
2. Frat Cars (1:32)
3. History (2:16)
4. Influence (3:07)
5. Authority (1:34)
6. GM (2:17)
7. Red/Green (2:52)
8. Sound On Sound (2:34)
9. Let's Play God (2:19)
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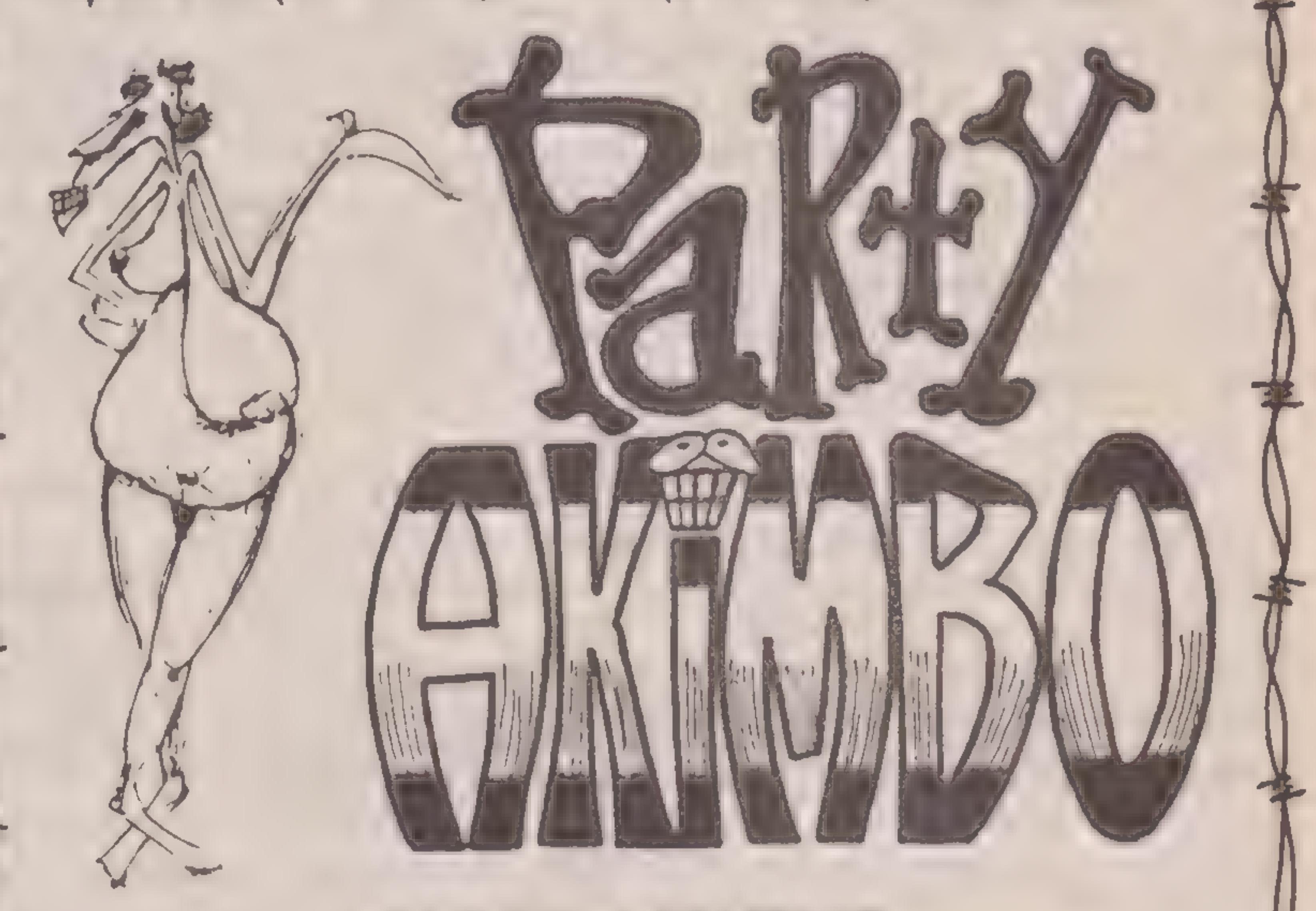

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AUDIO REVIEWS

OK, here's the scoop. As always, we're struggling to keep up with the influx of music. Everything that arrived by March 5 should be reviewed below, and most of what arrived by March 10. There's two exceptions. First, if you sent us three or four tapes at once, we'll hold them so as to spread the reviews out over multiple issues and give a varied batch of reviewers a shot at the same material. Second, it's possible that some reviews got delayed in the mail on their way back to me. If you want to know what the status is on your record or tape, phone me, and I can probably tell you.

Reviewers for this issue include Don Byrd (DB), Kevin Byrne (KB), L.J. Cunningham (LJC), Karin Falcone (KF), Tom Gogola (TG), The Æditor (MG), Ken Johnson (KJ), William Meckley (WM), Jay Mentes (JCM), Cris Elligott Rowles (CER), Kyle Silfer (KS), and Carol Schutzbank (CS).

We got another few tapes from Jeff Jarvie's various groups: The Mystery Tramps, the Eviscerators, and the Cheapskaters. In about a dozen reviews we've yet to find anyone who likes this music. The first three people to volunteer to write a guest review will get to see if they can break this streak.

★★★★★

1313 MOCKINGBIRD LANE, "The Second Coming of 1313 Mockingbird Lane" (Scarab Records, 564 Park Ave., Albany, NY 12208): Gothic psychedelia, full of guitar effects and minor key keyboards. Unfortunately most of the music here is no match for the fuzzbox, which reduces it to the level of noise. The closing instrumental, "Egyptian Caravan", does redeem the record somewhat, giving us music to shuffle off to bed by. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

3 MUSTAPHAS 3, "Heart of Uncle" (Rykodisc, Pickering Wharf, Building C-3G, Salem, MA 01970): Spice ethnic pop music flavored with a whole shaker of world influences. Light and dexterous melodies are lively and infectious. The whole thing is so totally likable and unexpected in its mix and infusion of world elements with contemporary accessibility. Try as you might, you can't pin them down 100%—you can only move along with them as they take you from the wilds of the gaelic highlands to the warmth of the middle eastern deserts to the bustle of urban humanity. (CD/CS)

★★★★★

3RD BASS, "The Cactus Album" (Def Jam Recordings/CBS Records, 51 W. 52nd St., New York, NY 10019): The latest craze to hit the Hip-Hop scene in the past six months. Their debut word goes on the warpath with a doze of Tom Waits, Blood, Sweat and Tears that fills this platter fill of goofy one liners. 3rd Bass is best when the music does the talking; not that their lyrics are weal it';s just that the beat is best. This LP has lots of neat sampling, which is all the rage of course, but that does not mean this is a dull record. No sir!!! "The Cactus Album" is made to groove at the latest happenings on both sides of the street. (LP/KB)

★★★★★

48 CAMERAS, "Third and Last Imitation of Christ" ($5.50 from Jan Bruun, Hypertonia World Enterprises, PO Box 4307, N-5008 Bergen, NORWAY): Nifty gloomy music from Belgium. The music itself is eerie and echoing, great for late nights. Over the top are spoken-word vocals, mood pieces for the most part, with titles like "Time Stands Still" and "Francis Bacon & His Dog". Very original stuff that works really well. (T/MG)

★★★★★

555, "Aquabelles" ($3 from Nonoxynol-9, PO Box 7792, Rego Park, NY 11374): A haze of sounds, sometimes John Six on guitar doing folky rock, sometimes found sounds and recordings off the telephone, sometimes ambient noise. It all seems to be muddled together without much of a plan, leading to a bit of aural overload as the brain tries to sort it all out. (T/MG)

★★★★★

555, "December Hospitals" ($3 from Nonoxynol-9, PO Box 7792, Rego Park, NY 11374): Mostly guitar music that meanders through pastoral jams to raw thrash, gloom rock and other half-deconstructed sounds. There's other rhythm noises throughout, some bass playing and warped vocals. It sounds like it was a lot of fun to make; listening was more of a chore. (T/TG)

★★★★★

555, "Live at Five" ($3 from Nonoxynol-9, PO Box 7792, Rego Park, NY 11374): Initially I enjoyed this—there were simple keyboardish melodies meshing in and out with noises and sounds (as if a CB tuner were receiving all the channels of the world at once tucked away inside a piano or synthesizer while someone played). By the end of side two, though, the melodies had disappeared into a repetitive haze of annoying noise that, coupled with the increasing sounds, became too relentless and unappealing for my ears. (T/CS)

★★★★★

ABDOMEN OF HYPNOSIS, "Slaughtered Optomologist" (DU, 7647 S. Pierce Way, Littleton, CO 80123): This is rhythm heavy speed/thrashcore acid-noise with piercing, stacatto guitars, and vocals ranging from garbled nonsense to some weirdo repeating "the cult is deceptive" about 300 times. "Pigdog" stood out, an ultrafast jam with the intensity of Ministry and a mix that hurts like multiple stab wounds. Beautiful noise. (T/TG)

★★★★★

ACIDMASTER, self-titled ($4 from Kevin Mitchell, 6907 Barry Rd., Tampa, FL 33634): Acidmaster's music is purely white noise in variant forms. Their music, however, is crafted so as to gently guide the listener from one discordant sound to another without abrupt transitions. Their soft touch with a harsh type of music provides an innately enjoyable listening experience. (T/KJ)

★★★★★

ACID REICH, "Mistress of the Perpetual Harvest" (Cool Beans Record & Tape Works, PO Box 8433, Red Bank, NJ 07701): Instrumental acid rock with no words, except for the classic drug scare film excerpts tucked betwixt the songs. They load up on guitars and feedback and fuzz and then plow through their tape, blasting out grungy sounds in take-no-prisoners style. Not especially distinctive, but good for what they do. (T/MG)

★★★★★

AFRO SISTERS, "Wet Lesbian" ($5 *CASH* from Vaginal Davis, 7850 Sunset Blvd. #110, Los Angeles, CA 90046): Featuring Vaginal Davis, this tape is as outrageous as the magazine **FERTILE LA TOYAH JACKSON** that these black teen drag queens put out. They're aggressively sexual (it's amazing that some of this went over live radio, but it did). Between chit-chat they do songs, with minimum instrumentation and maximum ideology: "We're Taking Over", "Tyrone the Baptiste", "Chinga Tu Madre", and "We're Lesbians" are just examples. (T/MG)

★★★★★

AGITPOP, "Stick It!" (Twin\Tone Records, 2541 Nicollet Ave. S, Minneapolis, MN 55404): Another fine album from these hard-edged popmeisters. They play around with rhythm and tempo quite a bit, but generally move fast, throwing plenty of guitar licks at the listener along with surreal lyrics (printed so as to be almost impossile to decipher on the sleeve) and bits of horn, keyboards and cello in various places. Look for "Recovery Road" and "Stop, Drop and Roll" to show up on the college radio circuit. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

ANACRUSIS, "Reason" (Metal Blade Records, 18653 Ventura Blvd., Tarzana, CA 91356). A well produced tape by a high quality heavy metal from a St. Louis band. Many bands of this stripe are so muddy you may as well go to the airport and listen to the jets take off. Amid the raucous din and high db level, Anacrusis manages to maintain musical textures which are symphonic in their density and richness. As they say of themselves, "the entire spectrum of heavy metal, from dramatic arpeggiated passages with melodic vocals, stylistics to unadulterated and defiant trash." Strong work. (T/DB)

★★★★★

ANIMOSITY, "Get Off My Back" (Mosh Pit Records, PO Box 9545, Colorado Springs, CO 80932): Furious thrash metal with unacceptable lyrics. Praising suicide and hating parents (both of which they do) is one thing; praising rape (which they also do) is another. No doubt, though, this will upset the PMRC and help sell copies. Musically they do okay, although singer Hale Kendall's voice has a tendency to crack a bit when he overreaches himself. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

ARSON GARDEN, "Under Towers" ($7 from Community 3, 438 Bedford Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11211): A new outfit from the wilds of Bloomington. I suspect that their darkly melodic music and the shifting vocals of April Combs will provoke some comparison with Throwing Muses, but the intensity here is of a different sort, very highstrung and inward-directed rather than bursting out with energy. It sinks in after a few listens and becomes a near-epiphanic experience to listen to. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

BILLY ATWELL, "Ferret in a China Shop" (Bobok, Ltd., PO Box 43787, Tucson, AZ 85733): Billy says that this record is an audio resume, and indeed it's a weird mix of things he's capable of doing, from straight guitar rock (light on the bass, though) to soaring, almost New Agey cuts, from abient (with frogs) to acoustic guitar. What it lacks in coherence it makes up in the delight of finding something new on the next track. With a punk career behind him, Atwell has the talents to do pretty much whatever he wants to with his music. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

THE BALTEK, "Rain Pain Butane" (Clevo Presents, PO Box 40144, Palisades Sta. NW, Washington, DC 20016): This is a hard-driving rock album with some jazzy rhythms, funky time changes and a macho-sultry vocalist. They push it a little, moving from stylish pop-metal (but slightly alternative) to dirge (a lamer Skin Yard). "Blue Scream" is as heavy as this gets, and the title track is something of a bugout. (LP/TG)

★★★★★

JOHN BARTLES, "Flat Animal" (PO Box 288, Springwater, NY 14560): This is rock in the unbalanced tradition of Daniel Johnston and GG Allin. I couldn't derive any significance from or reason to listen to songs such as "Cut My Own Head Off" or "Red Horse Sucker for Supper." Like a dead animal left in the road in August, this tape has a stench that hangs around forever. Insane and pointless. (T/DW)

★★★★★

BASTARDS, "Monticello" (Treehouse Records, PO Box 80037, Minneapolis, MN 55408): Killer sludge rock that builds to a fever pitch of crashing guitars and screaming vocals. Their demolition of "Bo Diddley" on the flip side here is a classic, and the power on the whole record will set the paint to peeling from your walls. Definitely a record to get to test your stereo's maximum power. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

BATTERED GOD, "True Love" (Zadfruc Tapes, PO Box 3592, Oak Park, IL 60302): Very odd collection that is bare bones electronic beeps. Battered God has no sense of variety or lyrical content making this tape great fun for video game enthusiasts. Several songs sound like collages the duo rehashed together from Ministry noodlings. I craved for a guitar after digesting this synth battering—boy, it needed help. (T/LJC)

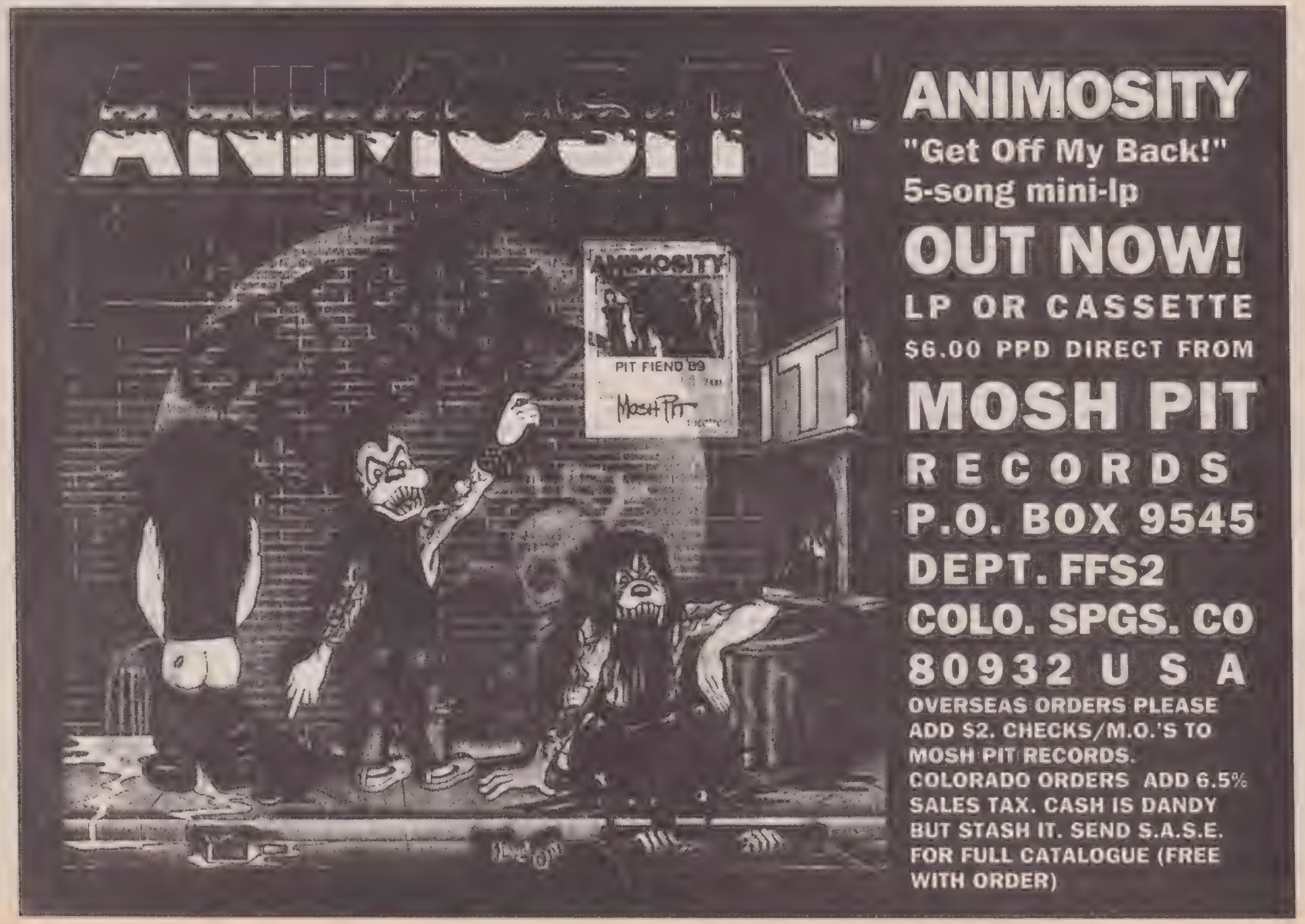
★★★★★

BEEF TRUST, self-titled (Skene Records, PO Box 4522, St. Paul, MN 55104): A hardcore debut EP that sounds pretty good. They sing sort of socially conscious punk, putting their distrust in the system up front and backing it with some serious music. The sound is sort of lean and sketchy, but it still works. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

BEG FOR EDEN, "The Stark Elusive" (Trance Technologies,. 80 Groton St., Staten Island, NY 10312): Stark and raw music from a two-piece with a dreamy sense of lyrics that sometimes turns nightmarish and a dark technoid 4AD sound. They range from the merely confusing to the downright abrasive, and manage to sustain a mood for the duration of this record. Went real well with being up late at night after too many hours without sleep. (EP/MG)

★★★★★



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THE BELOVED, "Happiness" (Atlantic Records, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10019): English-import dance music heavy on the beat and electronics and aimed at the charts. But it's not as mindless as that might make it sound; in particular, the lyrics to the title cut are fun and even interesting, a catalog of people from the modern world. An optimistic album. (T/MG)

★★★★★

JAKE BERRY, "Chants" ($4 from 2251 Helton Dr. #N7, Florence, AL 35630): Whether intentional or not, I've no B side on this tape, but side A is amply rewarding. The tracks are lushly simple (not minimal) in their arrangement, as in each a few elements are worked with special care and attention. Experimental tinkering is expanded to include a couple of "folk ballads" in which a demi-harmonic guitar riff churns along in the company of skew and venerable sounds while overhead croon psychedelic vocals that swing to and fro between jaws of aloofness and a spasmodic psychosis leaving the listener clutched with some good lines to ponder. (T/JCM)

★★★★★

JAKE BERRY, "States" ($4 from 2251 Helton Dr. #N7, Florence, AL 35630): This is a departure from the experimentalism which characterizes much of Jake's work, since this tape is guitar-based folk music, much of it with an anti-authoritarian bent. I enjoyed "The Flag's On Fire" and "Freedom Road", to name a few. Gentle and mildly quirky music with an air of sincerity. (T/MG)

★★★★★

BIG OOZING THING, self-titled (282 Parliament #68, Toronto, ONT, M5A 3A4, CANADA): A mysterious tape of nightclub-altered pop with female vocals in French and English. There's nothing to hint at its provenance or intent, and while the music is perky enough, the constant repetition gets old fairly quick. A disco refugee. (T/MG)

★★★★★

BIG SNUFF, "Happy Man Songs" ($10 from 3517 Shelby, Waco, TX 76711): Inside the hand-screened cover is a piss-yellow record, where spoken word works explore the dark crevices of a few young men's minds. There is minimal musical accompaniment behind some of these rants, but mostly a transfixing series of images of whores and violence and self-mutilation and other grody things, (EP/MG)

★★★★★

THE BLEAK TWINS, self-titled (PO Box 11235, Winslow, WA 98110): Childish music accompanied with banging, toy organs, other low-fi instruments, or nothing at all. This collection of yowling and harmony occasionally rises to the level of charm, but more often is mired in tedium—like a Lisa Suckdog record with less profanity. (T/MG)

★★★★★

MARK S. BLOCH, "Ten Zen Men" (Panman Tapes, PO Box 1500, New York, NY 10009-8615): A wild mix of styles and plays on styles describes Bloch's bizarro version of "Blue Suede Shows". A chameleon, he dips into his grab-bag of influences and comes out with a mix that is very New York, funnier and hungrier than Golden Palominos, but finally nothing but his own weird vision. Global politics and ska are expertly tackled in "Reason to Live", his back-up musicians providing some cool sax work. Somehow more together because of the strange diversity of its parts. (T/KF)

★★★★★

BLOODSISTER, self-titled (109 Records, 115 St. Mark's Place, New York, NY 10009): An all-female group, but I wouldn't call them a "girl group"; you'd never guess their sex from the hard-driving psychedelic metal here, and it hardly matters. There's an intensity about their work that draws the listener in, until he falls into a psychedelic swirling pool with jagged edges. Check out "Slow Motion", which is anything but. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

BLOODY MESS & THE SKABS, "Never Again" ($3 from Zadfruc Tapes, PO Box 3592, Oak Park, IL 60302): I'm actually getting to the point where I look forward to new work from Bloody; this punk rock stuff must finally be rotting my brain. The sound quality on this live recording is Ok, if nothing to write home about, and the band does most of their more offensive songs plus punk anthems like "Burn the Flag". The kind of music that drives moms wild. (T/MG)

★★★★★

THE BLUE NILE, "Hats" (A&M Records, 595 madison Ave., New York, NY 10022): Languid and flowing music, softer than rock; in fact, I think it might be some crazy modern descendant of crooning. The whole is crystalline, sharp, but a little droning at times, as they don't give the listener a lot to latch on to in their seamless approach to making sounds. A very peaceful record. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

THE BUD COLLINS TRIO, "A Tape That We Made" (50 Thompson Rd., North Franklin, CT 06254): More tough to describe but great to listen to crossover music. It starts out pretty jazzy, but has rock and pop and who knows what else thrown into the stew. My favorite cut on this tape is "Mister Mystery", a retro-pop number that bubbles with strange imagery and swirling music. Sound quality is excellent, too. (T/MG)

★★★★★

BULIMIA BANQUET, "Party My Colon" (Flipside Records, PO Box 363, Whittier, CA 90608): Two guys, two gals, and a whole lot of fast-paced punk music that slides over to the metallic end of things from time to time. Besides singing of fat, they cover LSD, dirty feet, and even "My lemon Lime Hermaphrodite". I suspect that when these folks look at the world, it looks very different to them than it does to me. High-energy bizarrities. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

BUNKUM, "Easy To Take, Hard To Swallow" (Meaningless Records, PO Box 2792, Sacramento, CA 95812-2792): A youthful record that wallows in anxious teenage sexuality—some of it pretty crude—while wandering around various musical genres. Some of this is uninspired sludge, but they do hit high points—as with the reggae "Rast-a-erobics" and the topical "Condomnation". Includes recordings of some prank phone calls and other flotsam between the tracks. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

BUXINRUT, "The Criminal Elephant" (RD1 Box 49, Frederica, DE 19946): At the core this is pop, but it goes from flashy almost techie stuff to harder, punk/pop combinations. Despite the diversity in styles, it seems almost as if the tape is one continuous jam, culminating in the breathtaking instrumental "View From the Asylum". Pep and punch in a single package. (T/MG)

★★★★★

BWANA FROLIC & FRIENDS, "Wilding...You Make My Swamp Thing" (Carl Howard, aT, 209-25 18 Ave., Bayside, NY 11360): Improvisational chaos with a vision. Recorded live in NYC, "in conjunction with the Festival of the Swamps", this two-part piece features six-odd musicians playing a vast array of instruments in traditional and non-traditional ways. Eerie tape effects and tribal slit drums create distinct atmospheric directions. Such an unconventional performance some would call noise, others...the bare essence of all music. Find out for yourself. Featuring Gen Ken Montgomery. (T/KF)

★★★★★

J.J. CALE, "Travel-Log" (Silvertone/RCA, 1133 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036): Relaxed acoustic guitar music, somewhere around the C&W/rockabilly axis. Each song here is tied to a city, New Orleans, Tijuana, Shanghai...The stuff is pleasant, but maybe a bit too wimpy, the adulatory comments from folks like Clapton notwithstanding. Cale has a clean style but I like a bit more bite and fanfare in my music. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

DON CAMPAU, "Don's Hyper Hits" ($5.50 from Jan R. Bruun, Hypertonia World Enterprises, PO Box 4307, N-5008 Bergen, NORWAY): A rather diverse bunch of Don't prolificacy from over the years, indicating his mindful melding of pop-consciousness and experimental wanderings resulting in an attitude towards songwriting which is friendly and relaxed. While much of the stuff here leans towards rock and/or electric folk, it mostly falls short of standard categories. The diversity is well-handled by Don's expressive mode based on snappy and melodious guitar/keyboard arrangements in synch with on-key singing. (T/JCM)

★★★★★

CANCEROUS GROWTH, "Textures" (Carl Howard, aT, 209-25 18 Ave., Bayside, NY 11360): Large scale soundscaping accomplished with a fanfare of processed sound elements of the electronic variety. Most of the music on the well-packed tape creeps about slowly, continually expanding and contracting the spatial and tonal depth with quite an entrancing effect. The subtly active mix blesses this project nicely especially in the substratum of the tracks. This is music for turned on space satellites or a welcoming ocean floor. (T/JCM)

★★★★★

CANDLEMASS, "Tales of Creation" (Metal Blade Records, 18653 Ventura Blvd. #311, Tarzana, CA 91356): A ponderous Swedish juggernaut of doom metal. Their songs take an apocalyptic tack, singing for example of being trapped in the labyrinth of one's own feelings, and in general seem designed to convince the already-gloomy listener that there is no escape. Polished but gloomy. (T/MG)

★★★★★

JEFF CARNEY, "Live Electronic Music" (Carl Howard, aT, 209-25 18 Ave., Bayside, NY 11360): This is the kind of electronic music I used to think of when I heard the words "electronic music": repetitive, emotionless, mechanical,

Contact:
HARSH HOUSE
NO ONE REFUSED

and maddening. The excerpt from "Pensive Mood" that comprises side B runs the entire length of the tape right down to the leader with no apparent changes in pitch or rhythm—which makes it great soundtrack music for highway driving as long as you don't mind the possibility you might veer off the road in a hypnotic stupor an slam into a tree. (T/KS)

★★★★★

CILUCY HOOTCHIE KOOTCHIE BAND, "Longbranch" (Penguin Records, 5109 Pt. Fosdick Dr. NW #E155, Gig Harbor, WA 98335): Silly and perky farm music that opens with a discussion between the vocalist and his farm animals. Between the mandolin, the tuba, the tin whistle and the musical saw, they've got a great sound, and with tunes like "The Hen Won;t Lay" and "Come Back to Longbranch" their crazy lyrics get a chance to shine to. A fun change of pace. (T/MG)

★★★★★

COLORED GREENS, "Final Gothic Summer" ($4 from Big Red Ant, c/o Sir Richard Duckworth, 330 E. 63rd St., New York, NY 10021): Badass rock music with all sorts of funky touches. The lyrics start out on a downbeat note ("Drop the Bomb/You might as well/Cause we don't care/If we go to Hell/This world is Shit...") and get progressively more so. Bouncy music to slit your wrists by. (T/MG)

★★★★★

CRACKS IN THE SIDEWALK, "Down" (PO Box 4672, Albuquerque, NM 87196): A somewhat sprawling rock release, wandering from psychedelia to rap, and picking up steam to end in a welter of stolen-licks hard rock at the tail of side two. They have a vision, albeit a somewhat dark one, but don't let the message get in the way of the songs. Just a wee bit experimental, but with a solid enough groove to be good thundering listening. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

CROSSFIRE, self-titled (Rock City Productions, 1415 Main St, Worchester, MA 016030). The independent music scene should be clearly classified (and the sooner the better) between the minor leagues and major leagues. Minor league indies dream of nothing but making it to the bigs. They want to be on the radio and make lots of money like Bon Jovi. Big league independents have made it. They know they'll never make it any money. For them independent production and distribution is as big as it gets. Crossfire is strictly minor league. They are no better nor worse than a thousand other bands out there. Who knows? Their number might come up. (T/DB)

★★★★★

THE CROW FLIES, "Bullworker" ($4 from Cubist Productions, 3408 Juliet St., Pittsburgh, PA 15213): Good hard-edged rock with a few powerful pieces that remind me a bit of bands like the Flaming Lips, as well as some silly drunken nonsense. Too bad they're broken up already, but at the price this is a posthumous record worth having. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

ROBIN CRUTCHFIELD, "Darkest Before Dawn" ($10.75 from 231 Thompson St., Box 12, New York, NY 10012): From one of the forces behind such "No Wave" music as DNA and Dark Days comes this new collection of 13 "dirges and dances". The music is entrancing, slow, majestic (but sometimes bouncy) and notable for the variety of real instruments (as opposed to synthesizers) including psaltery, bells, cello, bongos, xylophone, and recorder, as well as lots of keyboards. Enjoyable soundscapes that deserve the crispness of CD reproduction. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

THE CYNICS, "Rock'N'Roll" (Get Hip/Skyclad, 6 Valley Brook Dr., Middlesex, NJ 08846): Powerful garage punk, that echoes some of the sounds of the past and brings them forward into new ground. The album design is sort of self-consciously psychedelic, but inside the music is grungy, pounding, chunks of sound with such classic themes as "Girl, You're On My Mind" and "You Got The Love". Play it loud and do some drugs. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

MICHAEL DAVIS, "Sidewalk Cafe" (Voss Records, 300 Esplanade Dr. #760, Oxnard, CA 93030): An initial solo effort by one of New York's leading young session trombonists. The tunes, mostly light rock and lating grooves, are pleasant enough, but what distinguishes this recording is the warmth and fluidity of Davis' trombone. I'd like to hear him take the time to stretch out a little in his improvisations. Warm pop/jazz with excellent sound on the CD. (CD/WM)

★★★★★

DEAD GODS, "Living and Fighting to Die" ($4 from Delinquent Revenge, 3751 Little Neck Point Rd., Virginia Beach, VA 23452): There must be people out there who like this band, because I can hear them cheering on the live recording. However, the recording itself...well, muddy feedback is perhaps the most interesting thing on this thrasher. Get a microphone, guys. (T/MG)

★★★★★

DEAD JESUITS, "Tape III: Cream Corn from the Eye Socket of Gibby" (249-2 Edwards St., Binghamton, NY 13901): Poorly-recorded partially-live thrash punk with a high proportion of cover tunes. They bash their way through "Louie Louie" and "Steppingstone" and "Okie From Muskogee" and others, leaving musical corpses in their wake. The B side has sonic experiments, aggravating rhythms, and a bit of a Divine movie. (T/MG)

★★★★★

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LARRY O. DEAN, "Cruel & Unusual Punishment" ($5 from 473-14th St. #A, San Francisco, CA 94103): Poetic somewhat folky rock with unexpected touches, like the rap influence on the unlisted bonus track. "WASPS" is pretty funny, ragging on rich kids, while "Goodness Sake" is a gentle love song. Mostly acoustic music, with bits of cello on one track. A good tape for the early afternoon, when I'm not into headbanging yet. (T/MG)

★★★★★

DEATH, "Spiritual Healing" (Combat, 187-07 Henderson Ave., Hollis, NY 11423): Following on the heels of their "Leprosy" album, this one may be a tad lighter—but in the sludge of thrash metal fronted by Chuck Schuldiner's gravel truck vocals, it's hard to say for sure. The tradeoff between his voice and his lead guitar provides a constant change of pace, from blunt power to technical wizardry. A steamroller with spikes. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

DEATHLOAD IN VEGAS, "Hess is Dead" b/w "Under the Blood" ($3 from Ron Bonds c/o IllumiNet, PO Box 746, Avondale Estates, GA 30002-0746): Techno-funk pop that plays off of the current world picture with its robotoid sound. "Hess is Dead" opens with canned Nazi speeches, then proceeds into an intense drum beat and lots of vocal multi-tracking effects. The B side is more of the same. Music for an industrial culture. (45/MG)

★★★★★

DEATH OF SAMANTHA, self-titled (Homestead, PO Box 800, Rockville Centre, NY 11571-0800): The A side, "Rosenberg Summer", is a definite thumbs-up. It's a wailing guitar emphasized semi-psychedelic lament with a soft powerful thrust and nice vocal interplay. On the B side, though, the jury's still out. It's a remake of Bowie's "Heroes", and the lounge—singer vocals are a little too posturing in an up-front, obvious way to win me over. On the other hand the rock and roll treatment of the song is solid and worth hearing. (45/CS)

★★★★★

THE DELMONAS, "Do The Uncle Willy" (Skyclad Records, 6 Valley Brook Dr., Middlesex, NJ 08846): This mysterious bunch of retro-surf throwbacks comes from England, with a female lead singer—who, along with the musicians, seems to be nowhere credited on the album. The music is firmly in the girl group tradition with songs like "I Did Him Wrong" and "Heard About Him", but if there's a wall of sound here it's made of tissue paper. Rocking in spots, but ever so lightweight. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

DELTAVEE, "...Got No Place to Go" ($4.99 from Vinyl Records, PO Box 1232, Madison, TN 37116) Clever and mellow rock, nice to sit back and listen to. "We're the Yellow Napkinheads" promotes thought, I still haven't figured out what the Napkinheads are all about, and why they hate Tiffany, though. The songs on this tape are all catchy and melodic, with a slice of funkiness in the song "Fantasy" that I liked. Deltavee is solidly talented in both writing and playing. (T/CR)

★★★★★

THOMAS DIMUZIO, "Headlock" (Generations Unlimited, PO Box 540, Marlborough, MA 01752): The debut vinyl from Dimuzio, who works with a combination of electronics and found sounds. The former act as sort of a glue to hold the latter together; it seems clear that his real interest lies in recombining the noises of the world to make new patterns and textures. As such, this album doesn't really have songs, only sections, and is more of a display than entertainment. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

DITTO, "Texas Electric" ($8 from Ditto Records, PO Box 49124, Austin, TX 78765): Charles Ditto's performances with an assortment of "electric sound modules" and occasional help from an electric guitar, bass and a tenor sax craft an enjoyable collection of electronic music. His judicious, though not overbearing, use of effects is combined well with his wide array of electronic equipment to create a diverse and inventive recording. (LP/KJ)

★★★★★

DIXON TICONDEROGA, "tainted beef carriage playthings" ($2 from Stungus, PO Box 6963 San Mateo, CA 94403): Scads of sampled sounds from game shows, pop cinema, the news, crazy Christians and more. Along with a drum machine and other noisemakers, this conveys a message of media overload and a general breakout of chaos. All the while, there's backround tapes played at hyperspeed, snail's pace and backwards, making for a disorienting sound. (T/TG)

★★★★★

D.O.A., "Murder." (Enigma, PO Box 3628, Culver City, CA 90231-3628): A powerful CD from these Vancouver hardcore stalwarts, who play some of the best socially-responsible punk music around. Their version of "The Midnight Special" here demands freedom for Nelson Mandela, for example. Environmental concerns are quite prominent as well, with "Concrete Beach" only one of several tracks on the subject. Some of the best punk has to offer. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

DOCTOR ALEXANDER BIRTHDAY PARTY, My Adobe Hacienda" ($1 from Voluminous Wag Records, 711 Hague Ave., St. Paul, MN 55104): A derivative Grand Master Flash bass line forms the basis for side 1, which sings like a pendulum between funzzy rock jamz, sparse bass strumming, slaughtly haunting spare vocals and an artsy mix of all of the aforementioned. Side 2 is more "new wave", taking side 1 and beefing it up into an aggressively electronic piece while not forsaking the distinctive vocals. (T/CS)

★★★★★

DOG, "Fucked Up?" (Disciples of Gawd, 249-2 Edwards St., Binghamton, NY 13901): The instrumentation and songwriting seem to be reworked attempts of earlier traditions in the field or hardcore, i.e. short, semi-bombastic songs flurrying about respectable but well-worn riffs, with a moderate amount of agility, Lyrics characterize a response to the global crisis which is all too emotional and reactive, unconcerned with any in-depth critical evaluation. But the energy level is upward and the attitude not unfriendly. Candid snippets of discussion on topics like beer and sex are an amusing addition. (T/JCM)

★★★★★

JOHN EBERLY, "To The Absent Other" ($5 from Mumbles, PO Box 8312, Wichita, KS 67208): Two-track acoustic guitar and vocals, all John's own work. He sings sort of mellow rock to country songs, occasionally with a bit of an edge as with "Dark Night of the Soul"., But on the whole this was not exceptional work. (T/MG)

★★★★★

ENSEMBLE VIDE "Le Foie, la Rate, et le Gesier" ($4 from Laurent Boyer c/o Ensemble Vide, BP 12, 33031 Bdx Cedex, FRANCE): Rather baffling unless you speak French (I don't), this collection of "extracts from the Show 0" (whatever that is) comes from some kind of French industrial scene represented by the radio show Ensemble Vide. There's a definite cut-and-paste quality here, sort of a noisy aural collage—including found recordings, readings from texts, and harsh, primitive percussion. The audio quality is atrocious, but that, I think, is at least partly intentional. Compelling, even though I have no idea what's going on. (T/KS)

★★★★★

THE ERIC PAONE PROJECT, demo tape (Ordure Productions, 8 Millbrook Rd., Kingston, NH 03848): A three-song punk demo tape, executed with more vigor than sound quality, or perhaps competence. Nothing here really stands out, just an overall impression of grungy vocals, loud rhythms and repetitive guitars. (T/MG)

★★★★★

ESKIMO SWAMP LIZARDS, demo tape ($4 from 32 Chestnut Hill, Greenville, MA 01301): This band decided to get their point across by getting our attention by stating their dick sizes rather than their ages. You can tell right off the bar that in the words of the group, after digesting this tape you are supposed to be able to adjust to reality, If this is what reality really is this band is in trouble. The demo was simply a mess, a wall of noise. The songs are droning bits that lack any direction. Eskimo Swamp Lizards fail to grasp why you make music in the first place: to make songs that are enjoyable. (T/KB)

★★★★★

EVIL ACIDHEAD, "Make the Walls Bleed" (Third Eye Recordings, PO Box 8433, Red Bank, NJ 07701): Rhythmic noise that pulsates and wails but still doesn't deign to settle down and become music. I wouldn't touch this on acid, despite its title; it's far too intense an experience even when you're straight. (T/MG)

★★★★★

EX-EGG, "New Aged" ($3 from Phil Franklin, 33A Bow St. #1, Somerville, MA 02143): Phil's first shot is a downhome sounding project that drifts about the planes of playful experimentation and shrill fun. Different sounds and styles are fed to the music grinder turning out an amalgam of scraps in which portions of pop culture are isolated, stripped of faced and then personalized. The project has all the markings of an "amateur", but so what? The tape's cover art is a nice thick silkscreen, and for $4 more you can get a silkscreened poster to go with it. (T/JCM)

★★★★★

FANTASY, "Wild n Free" ($5 from David Kish, 516 Wilson Ave., Bakersfield, CA 93308): Your basic glam rock tape, with some hard edges but nothing very flashy. The band has progressed to a level of competence but their work is so far rather pedestrian—it might be fine to dance to but as a listening experience it falls pretty flat. Demo-quality tape doesn't help a lot either. But there's a spark here for the future. (T/MG)

★★★★★

FIRE HEAD, "Yogurt Man" ($4 from Natt Rabb, 612 Wyndhurst Ave., Baltimore, MD 21210): I may have discovered another musical genre here: Uke Core. Yes, Nat plays the ukelele here, sometimes straight, sometimes with heavy distortion. The music is something of a punk parody, from the Sex Pistolsish "Eatin' Barbed Wire" to the rebellious "My Alma Mater" to the social commentary of "Doogie Howser" and "Reverend X Called Me". The no-budget production shows, but this is still a pretty funny tape. (T/MG)

★★★★★

SCOTT FITZGERALD, "Messenger" (Nature Records, PO Box 2749, Friday Harbor, WA 98250): This is a New Age recording par excellance: Scott's soaring keyboard compositions mixed with nature sounds from the Pacific Northwest and inspired by Native American themes (they print part of Chief Seattle's message as the liner notes). It's a relaxing, encouraging work, one that leaves me feeling energized when I'm done listening to it—so I think they succeeded in avoiding the bad parts of New Age. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

JOE FOLK AND THE SOHO VALLEY BOYS, self-titled (109 Records, 115 St. Mark's Place, New York, NY 10009). "Massively inspired by King Missle and Missing Foundation," we are told. This is lower eastside schlock. The cover photo of this tape shows a muscular-arty young man in the buff covering his ass with a guitar (a better use than the instrument than is found in the music). The "poetry" and "music" wrassle with one another. First it looks like the words are gonna lose, then it looks like the music is gonna lose, but it turns that they both lose. Surely that strange stretch of real estate that gave us the Fugs many years ago can do better with poetry and music than this. (LP/DB)

★★★★★

CHRIS FONDY, "Parallel Hell" ($5 from Chris Fondy, 252 Miles Ave., Apt. 1, Syracuse, NY 13210): Sometimes noisey, often eloquent electronic noodlings and found sound samples. Fondy creates a poignant and apparently realistic picture of a drug-induced psychotic experience with "Soul Fracture," where he has mixed samples from the Wizard of Oz and Daffy Duck with his own grinding guitar work. "Feel Like a Hitchhicker" is alienation set to stadium-sized guitars, and shows how Fondy artfully captures emotion with a potpourri of sounds. (T/DW)

★★★★★

FOOT LONG CLITORIS, "Three Drunks With a Bank Card" ($2 from PO Box 2143, Stow, OH 44224): The label suggests that the listener get really drunk before listening to this—understandable, because it's really, really bad music recorded at low fidelity. If you've never had a bunch of loaded friends around to make music, you can get this and pretend you do. At least their demolition of "My Sharona" is sort of funny, but on the whole, this is only marginally music. (T/MG)

★★★★★

FORCED REALITY, self-titled (Patriot Records, 9 Earl St. #1, Malden, MA 02148): Aggressive skinhead music, loud and in your face. The basic theme of this record is something like "Skinheads have been bashed by the press long enough and now we're going to fight back and watch out because there are more of us than you think". A military drum beat and snarled lyrics characterize the music, with the guitars lending it some shape. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

THE FORGOTTEN REBELS, "(Untitled)" (Restless Records, PO Box 3628, Culver City, CA 90231-3628): Fun rock with a Bowiesque tint to it and a rather raunchy sense of humor. Besides their cover of "Science Fiction Double Feature" (which immediately prejudiced me in their favor) good bets on this album include "I Gotta Axe" (which will please Texas Chainsaw Massacre fans) and the upper-class snoot song "Tea & Crupets". I'm glad there are still bad boys in rock who can laugh as well as thrash. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

FUGAZI, "3 Songs" ($3 from Dischord, 3819 Beecher St. NW, Washington, DC 20007): Stupid title, and the first song is called "Song Number One"—not exactly the epitome of creativity. It doesn't matter, though, since from the moment the needle hits the vinyl you're immersed in the energy and guitar work that characterizes Fugazi. The lyrics are sort of nihilistic, which is going to appeal to lots of people, the price is good, and the music punches you right in the face. (45/MG)

★★★★★

FUNERAL PARTY, self-titled (Adam Lewis, WFPR, Rundge, NH 03461): It;s doom and gloom as the name might suggest, but it's done with a light and deft touch. The band doesn't exploit it; rather, they use it as an embellishment to their tight delivery of art/rock/gothic music. The vocals remind me of a cross between David Byrne and Peter Murphy, while the songs hint at bands like Echo & the Bunnymen, though a bit more ringing and eerie. (T/CS)

★★★★★

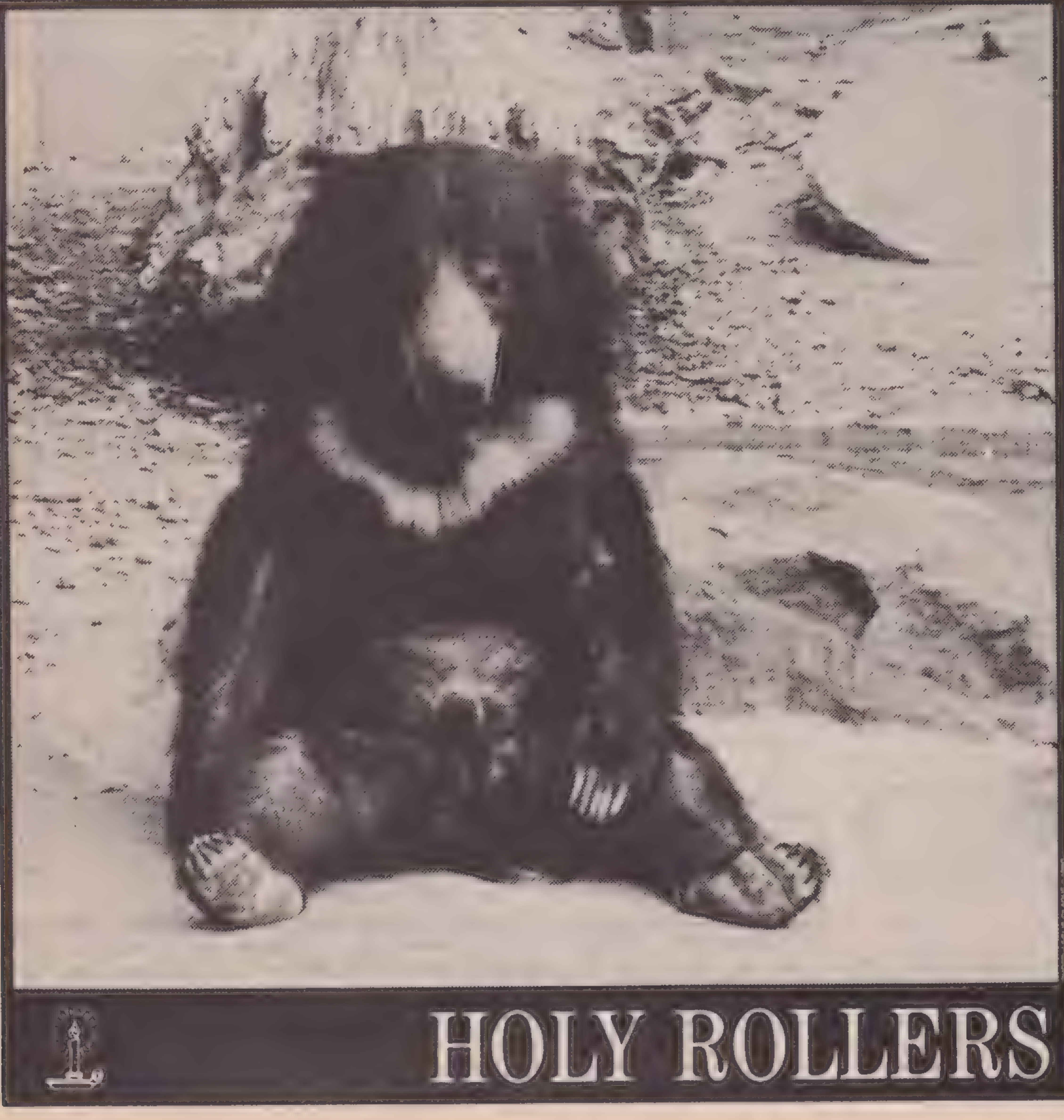
THE FUNSEEKERS, "Frenzyfying" (Treehouse Records, PO Box 80037, Minneapolis, MN 55408): Good heavens. It's as if all that was British "modly pop" has grown and mutated into some aggressively husky beast, yet has still managed to retain its soul intact. The funseekers are "neuvo-retro"—part future-forward with a contemporary presence of mind executing influences of music past. Their songs are satisfyingly jangly, brisk and hepped to go—they recall an amalgam of 60's Brit-harmony bands, American west-coast pop bands and garage bands from just about anywhere. (LP/CS)

★★★★★

FURNACEFACE, "Sucked into Drugland" ($3 from The Skull Duggery Label, PO Box 734, Hopkins, MN 55343): Hot-shot white-boy funk from what seems like an unlikely locale: Ottawa. This bunch of guys can lay down a smooth rhythm as well as anyone, though, so don't let that stop you from tuning into their perky sounds. Check out the fast-paced "Lady from the Embassy",a different sort of lust song. (45/MG)

★★★★★

GARGOYLES, self-titled ($4 from Suede Brain Operation, PO Box 170562, San Francisco, CA 94117): Three guys, two gals, lots of black leather, a garage



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rock sound with Iggy and Alice Cooper influences, and lyrics that are like a kick in the teeth. "Coke Whore", for example, is not what you'd call a feminist song, while "Fistful of Sand" basically says "take your dreams and toss them in the dumpster." Cool rocking beat, and just enough polish, but listen closely and it's pretty gross. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

GERONIMO, "A Couple of Words For You" ($6 from Torkild Thellefsen, Mølleskoven 42, 9260 Gistrup, DENMARK): English-language hardcore punk. Though they're billing this as a demo tape, this selection of 20 fast songs (with a few oddball things, like one rapper, thrown in) is quite polished and impressive. The band is still young, but already they've penned a lot of good political songs and recorded them with vigor. Watch out for those Danes. (T/MG)

★★★★★

GIANT SAND, "Long Stem Rant" (Homestead Records, PO Box 800, Rockville Centre, NY 11571-0800): This one leads off with a strong set of drum licks—not surprising as drummer John Convertino is half of the current lineup, led by singer/ranter/guitarist Howe Gelb. Giant Sand play bouncy music, whipsawing country/folk influences with solid rock, and getting in some throwaway joke music as well. The core of this album is a no-nonsense look at the world, backed up by exuberant arrangements and a sense of wonder. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

CRISPIN HELLION GLOVER, "The Big Problem" (Restless Records, 11264 Playa Ct., Culver City, CA 90231): On this record, in which a puzzle is presented, Mr. Glover (of acting fame) does some singing and reading of his stuff as well as that of others. His voice has a vaguely endearing quality and it never really comes off as sounding too awkward. The music, by Barnes and Barnes, which is sort of experimental in a Fripp sense, tends to be playful and cartoony, though it mostly plays second fiddle to the vocals. A song each from Charles Manson and Lee Hazlewood is covered, both with a good bit of grace and coolness. I found the most interesting tracks to be the selected readings from "OAK-MOT". (LP/JCM)

★★★★★

THE GORIES, "House Rockin'" (Wanghead Records, 19620 Warham Rd., New Boston, MI 48164): A three-piece garage band with a sound that is loose, harsh and which fits right in with the spirit of the tunes they do. Rather than note-by-note tributes, they play a bluesy rock that explodes with simple lines and chewy vocals. Furious noise. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE, "Lick the Boot" (Mourner Bros., PO Box 05769, Detroit, MI 48205): Perhaps because of the depressed state of the local economy, Detroit has spawned a number of good bands of resistance in recent years—the Blanks, the Layabouts and Angry Red Planet spring to mind. Now you can add Grievance Committee to the list, along with their harsh punk sound and lyrics of disgust with the system. Three tracks, of which the closing "Collision Course" stands out with its driving rhythm. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

GROUNDHAWGS, "Bare Wire: Last Chance for Metal" ($4 from Bill Cole, 54 Timber Trail, Manchester, CT 06040): Is this a hilarious Zappa-esque parody of the teen crotch-metal craze—or a slick attempt to capitalize on it? Probably both. The band details white middle-class teenage hetero-hormonal angst in caricature and drops names like Gene, Paul, and Ace down to the last riff. I couldn't wipe the smirk off my face until; the remorseless AOR drone of the final cut—in which the lead singer deadpans his way through an evening of gay bashing, Bass ale, rape, murder, and more Bass ale. Hey, these guys are saying something! And maybe hoping the kids don't notice the bite. (T/KF)

★★★★★

THE HAFLER TRIO, "A Bag of Cats" ($20 *CASH* from Touch, 13 Osward Road, London SW17 7SS, ENGLAND): A CD and a 32-page booklet, which together form the first in the "Spiral" series of philosophy and music. The sounds here range from a reading on the theory of perception to ambient installations to a piece based on Sheldrake's concept of the morphogenetic field. The writings are somewhat impenetrable, but maddeningly fascinating, looking at perception and what's wrong with it. Chaos theory creeps in here somewhere too. For the dedicated explorer. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

SUE ANN HARKEY, "The Ancient Past and the Ancient Future are Both Seconds Away" (CNLF, PO Box 2026, Madison Sq. Stn., New York, NY 10159): An LP of exotic sounding music anchored by Sue Ann's own prepared 12-string guitar but wandering out to include everything from fiddle and mandolin to dulcimer. There are improvisations here as well as vocal pieces. Overall this sounds like it comes from some wild and wonderful culture that lurks in the shadows of our everyday world. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

MATT HARRIS, "Hit and Run" (Voss Records, 300 Esplanade Dr. #760, Oxnard, CA 93030): Well-produced commercial pop/jazz on CD from multi-keyboardist Matt Harris. Nice playing by a small group performing Harris' compositions which lean toward slickness but dip into funk and blues enough to occasionally generate some heat. Pleasant but not challenging listening. (CD/WM)

★★★★★

BRET H. HART, "Dented Red Bicycle: A Retrospective Collection of Music by Bret H. Hart" (USAFS-K, NSGA Box 48, APO San Francisco, CA 96271—0134): A collection of Bret's releases all the way back to 1983. I especially liked his piece "Shopping for Pork" where he combines with Matt Brown (bass and percussion) to create a brilliant cacophonous interplay between guitars and percussion. "Zoobs Left Town Fast" and "Lots of Nice" also make use of similar ideas with excellent results. His later pieces (from 1989 releases) incorporate more of his quirky guitar with an evolving gift for the spoken word. Highly recommended. (T/KJ)

★★★★★

HEADLESS HOUSEHOLD, self-tiitled (New Music Distribution Service, 500 Broadway, New York, NY 10012): Sort of jazz fusion that wanders beyond the usual rock boundaries to include trombone solos and screwball lyrics on one polka cut. They slip in the odd beer bottle or xylophone, and generally mess around to see what works. Some of it doesn't, but cuts like "Gabriel" make it worth checking this one out. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

HEIGIENIC FROG, "It Doesn't Have A Name" ($4 ppd from 220 Walnut St., Sellersville, PA 18960): Thirteen years old is a good place to start to learn rock and roll; this duo is on its 7th project. "It Doesn't Have a Name" mixes itself between keyboard dominated instrumentals and compositions about dogs, trains, and monsters. Heigienic Frog's problem is that the lyrics don't match the music. From the topics discussed I felt that there would be songs in the 3 chord manner. Keep trying guys. (T/KB)

★★★★★

RICHARD HELL & THE VOIDOIDS, "Funhunt" (ROIR, 611 Broadway #411, New York, NY 10012): Proto-punk culled from Hell's own personal collection of live gig tapes from CBGBs and Max's Kansas City back around '79. It includes both originals and covers, ands is a dark, zoned-out sort of tape, suitable for the blank generation to be spawned from. A documentary more than a living dancing collection. (T/MG)

★★★★★

REV. A'DAM HELLFIRE, "Reality" ($2 *CASH* from Stungus, PO Box 6963, San Mateo, CA 94403): A big meaty hunk of noise for which the ingredients include distorted guitar, yelping trombone, tapes, perc., vocals and a CB radio. The pieces on each side ("Tedium" and "Agony") consist mainly of tapes, noises, or instruments which have the phonetic qualities that may be likened to such organismic processes as hissing, coughing, farting and tongue-swallowing. Take these types of phonic meanderings, dub them up, and add to them a monster dosage of waggish angst and I think you'll get a pretty good picture of the goings on here. (T/JCM)

★★★★★

KARL HENDRICKS, "Where the Dogs Run Free" (813 Romine Ave., Port Vue, PA 15133): A mostly home-recorded mix of electric and acoustic rock originals. The recording quality varies a bit but is overall pretty good for a demo tape, and Karl seems to have a few songs here that have potential, notably the wistful "Neither Can I" and "Ruth Ann". The four-track revolution continues to pop up good new tapes all the time. (T/MG)

★★★★★

HERNIA RETRACTION ACCORDION, "Choking on the Fumes" ($4.99 from Peter Petrisko, Jr., PO Box 56942, Phoenix, AZ 85079): "Sonic experimentalism" from a batch of folks in the Phoenix area. They overlay their synthesizers with booming text pieces and found sounds, apparently striving towards a feeling of impending doom. It works well, especially on pieces like "Porn-O-Rama" and "Ashes to Ashes". Sampling in the service of insanity rather than simply expropriaton. (T/MG)

★★★★★

HEXENHAUS, "A Tribute To Insanity" (Metal Blade Records, 18653 Ventura Blvd. #311, Tarzana, CA 91356): British thrash metal, with a very heavy sound and religiously-inspired lyrics—not that they're CCM, but the arena they sing in is full of hellish fates and requiems and gloom and doom and death. Killer lead guitar licks throughout, with only a few breath-catching pauses. (T/MG)

★★★★★

HEY! HEY! HEY!, "World Without Sound" (Maitre'D Records, 70 E. 10th St., New York, NY 10003): Perky upbeat rock that combines a pop edge with some heavy-duty rhythmic sensibilities. Trumpet, keyboards, a couple of guitars and plenty of vocals come together here, with the title cut and the cover of "The Lion Sleeps Tonight" being primo dance numbers. From the label that put out the two M'lumbo tapes, and continuing in that tradition of fine offbeat music. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

HICKOIDS, "Qaltz A Crossdress Texas" (Toxic Shock, PO Box 242, Pomona, CA 91769): Belly-laugh cowpunk, leading off with the outrageous "Queen of the Bar-B-Q" and going on from there. I loved the peppy instrumental "Jumping Bean Bolero", and "Brand New Way" is every drunk-punk's dream song. A bit ribald, a lot strange, and darned good music to boot. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

HOLIDAY SLIDES, "Ornate Coalmine" ($incere Records, 340 21st St. #8, Brooklyn, NY 11215): Lush rock that at times reminds me of the Beatles circa "I Am The Walrus": there's that same feeling of lots of disparate impulses being crammed into one song, though the point of view here is mostly nicer. The lyrics run from biting commentary on "Down On Our Luck" to just confusing on "Jason's Home". A new mold being cast, perhaps. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

THE HOLLYWOOD JONESES, "Tits and Champagne" (Trigon Records, 6387 Hanna Ave., Canoga Park, CA 91303): Originally they were "The Joneses" but now they've gone Hollywood...sue to a dispute with an East coast label. No matter, despite the fact that their name says "swimming pools and movie stars" their music quite clearly says "no pretensions here". It's like some wild untamed half-sibling to the Ramones family, wacky and offbeat peppy garage rock with crunch. (LP/CS)

★★★★★

GREG HORN, "Big Grumpy Adults" ($8 from PO Box 1614, Tempe, AZ 85281): Electronic dark pop music with a lot of angst seemingly lurking in Horn's vocals, which seem influenced by the harshness of his desert environment. There's strong attention to the rhythm and the power of pop, and bits of tribalism mixed in as well. Horn is definitely an artist to keep an eye on. (T/MG)

★★★★★

HOUSE OF LARGE SIZES, "One Big Cake" (Toxic Shock, PO Box 43787, Tucson, AZ 85733): Power trio post-punk, or something like that. It's brash, it has a strong drum/rhythm feel to it, and the lyrics are outre and downbeat. The incessant pounding and drone of their sound, while distinctive, does wear after a while; the album could use to be trimmed by a couple of songs. Play one side at a time and enjoy. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

JOHN HUDAK, "For Ivan Who is not Ivan" (New Flesh Tapes, 2837 NW 66th St., Oklahoma City, OK 73116): Two 30-minute pieces dedicated to other-worldly sounds looped with the utmost of repetition and seemingly designed to promote listener brain realignment. The outcome is neither harsh nor sweet, somewhere strened between being clawwed and handjobbed. The overall result is sublime, but if repetition bores you, well captain, then try interacting with the droning by manning the eq., cue and speed settings on your unit. (T/JCM)

★★★★★

HULLABALOO, "Beat Until Stiff" (Toxic Shock, PO Box 43787, Tucson, AZ 85733): Highly dangerous metalcore sludgefest grunge music with all the pretty edges filed off and dumped somewhere in a lonely grave. These guys are mostly interested in pumping as much power and terror through their guitars as possible, aided by gravelly vocals and drums from Hell. A very heavy piece of vinyl. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

HUMIDIFIER, "Misery's Redeeming" ($6 from John King, Lubricated Records, 1086 Tulsa St., Uniondale, NY 11553): They describe their music as "punk, trash pop rock" and that about covers it. This record has numerous influences and shattered psyche lyrics. On "Milk," singer John King wails, "I am the cow/you are the farmer/you get the milk/and I get nothing." Culled from demo sessions in 87 and 88, "Misery's Redeeming" is a study in the development of a promising band. (LP/DW)

★★★★★

HYPNOLOVEWHEEL, "Candymantra" (Fabian Aural Products, 655 Carroll St., Brooklyn, NY 11215): After "Turn! Turn! Burn!" these guys are now two for two in the lousy album title sweepstakes. Doesn't matter much, though, because their maniacal punk/pop combinations, skittering off the walls with shots of pure clangor, can excite with the best of them. Hypnolovewheel seems to be one of the few bands that is still interested in breaking out of genres instead of fitting in, and it's often hard (but rewarding) to follow where they lead. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

IAO CORE, "Gilman St. Project, 11/20/87" (IAO-OAI, 326 Dogwood Dr., Walnut Creek, CA 94598): Heavy praise is due for an ensemble that shows up for a live performance with more than just their instruments. IAO Core provide a compelling release that seems to draw from Psychic TV and Crime and City Solution and other assorted underground influences. The performance flows smoothly from beginning to end and is well recorded. (T/KJ)

★★★★★

IDIOT'S DELIGHT, self-titled (PO Box 5325, Kansas City, MO 64131): Much of this EP doesn't catch fire for me, sloppy punk music that seems to ramble, although the aggressive "It's Sick" was okay. But I listened until the end and was rewarded with "Tide Turning", a dark bass-laden vision of a future that just might destroy the chains of privilege. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

IDOLEYES, "The Divine Principle is Hope" (Carl Howard, aT, 209-25 18 Ave., Bayside, NY 11360): These six recordings, richly blended from a variety of instruments (including tabla and viola), cruise smoothly at a comfortable mid-tempo clip. The murky ambivalence of the music recalls the early days of Cabaret Voltaire and A Certain Ratio, and the mesmeric guitars and keyboards sort of suggest Can circa "Future Days". But don't get the idea that these folks are out on a retro-tour of indydom. Most of the tape is refreshing in the balance implied by the combined use of celestial and gambolling elements. (T/JCM)

★★★★★

IGNITION, "The Orafying Mysticle of..." ($5 from Dischord Records, 3819 Beecher St. NW, Washington, DC 20007): Powerful four-piece furious rock with a political bent to the lyrics. "One Sided" is the hot song here, blasting at those who only consider their own oppression and not that of others. Six cuts in all, each a tightly constructed sonic assault. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

INDIGO ZEROS, "Naked" b/w "Fairless Square" (Tombstone Records, PO Box 1463, Clackamas, OR 97015): Complex, melodic but somewhat self-consciously psychedelic rock, with op and xerographic art packaging. The B side is the better of the two, an interwoven dream melody with an almost palpable depth to it. Worth looking forward to a whole album. (45/MG)

★★★★★

INKY SPOON, self-titled ($3 from Jonathan Murray, 94 Brainerd Rd. #14, Allston, MA 02134): A refreshingly unpretentious little work of five tightly constructed songs. The combo's crisp, fast, acoustic sound creates a solid groove for Kristen Persino's vocals. She can really sing, which is a jarring touch. The lyrics, drenched in heterosexual pondering, are not above cliche—but far from romantic drivel. (T/KF)

★★★★★

INSULIN REACTION, "Now!" (PO Box 3636, Covina, CA 91722): With massive dual basses and sometimes gloomy lyrics, Insulin Reaction sounds like the results of a chance meeting between Guns N' Roses and the Cure. A potent combination of aggressive rhythmic rock and brooding, angst-riddled lyrics that sometimes results in a sinister sound, as in "Destination." "Now!" is a nicely polished and produced tape that captures a unique sound.(T/DW)

★★★★★

INSULIN REACTION, "What's The Point?" (Bobok, Ltd., PO Box 43787, Tucson, AZ 85733): Intricate melodic rock from a band fuelled by two bass guitars and no lead guitar. Combined with Tracy Garcia's lead vocals and poetic downbeat lyrics, the result is a swirl of spacy rock that leaves behind a feeling of emptiness in its wake. Right nice introspective stuff. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

THE INTRYNSICS, self-titled ($3 from 1269 Commonwealth Ave. #7, Allston, MA 02134): A four piece pop group with a clean fresh sound. They're well away from the garages, looking for an upbeat place to pump out a few tunes. "Repetition" got me smiling and nodding, and will probably do the same for you. The retro-guitar work is nice too. (T/MG)

★★★★★

"Islands In-Between" ($10 *CASH* from Touch, 13 Osward Road, London SW17 7SS, UK): A beautifully balanced release of music from the islands of Java and Bali. While more traditional Balinese or Gamelan music can be obtained from other labels (Ocura comes to mind), the pieces on this cassette strike an artful balance without being patronizing to the past or present. Highly recommended. (T/KJ)

★★★★★

I.T.N., "Erotic Autopsy" ($4 from Ecto Tapes, 5912 N.W. 62nd Terrace, Oklahoma City, OK 73122): A well-produced (though not "slick") release that is reminiscent of Bourbonese Qualk, though I.T.N. attempts more thematic development in their pieces. "Sonic Ritual in 3 Parts" was gripping while "Erotic Autopsy" had a harder edge. I.T.N. can get bogged down on some pieces (such as in "The Sun iz Still Red"), but overall it's a good release. (T/KJ)

★★★★★

"It's a JUNGLE in There" ($9.95 from Tapir Tapes, 6171 Bernhard Ave., Richmond, CA 94805): This is a nature tape made in several tropical rainforest preserves in Costa Rica. It features a great variety of birds and other wildlife, in binaural sound (great with headphones) and with a separate sheet listing the species you can hear. On the back the sounds are played back at 1/4 speed, to better simulate the experience a bird (with its higher time resolution) has of birdsongs. (T/MG)

★★★★★

IX EX-SPLUE, self-titled ($10 *CASH* from Vision, PO Box 568, CH-4005 Basel, SWITZERLAND): Hellbent experimental rock music. The Sax wails out a crazy calliope of

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noize while the drums go forth furiously in the background and guitar and bass battle for sonic supremacy. Over all of this come anxious female lead vocals, the end result being a jam for Titans with nothing better to do than terrorize unsuspecting humanity. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

MARKUS JAMES, "Season of Dread" (Firenze Records, 1827 Haight St. #65, San Francisco, CA 94117): The opening strains of this CD have a decidedly middle eastern flavor—but James doesn't stay in any one rut for long. There's jazzy crossover rock ("Freeway Fantasia"), hard-driving guitar-pumped stuff ("Scorched Earth") and everything in between. James writes sensitive and somewhat downbeat lyrics, shining a spotlight on stuff he doesn't like and following up with bursts of well-played music. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

JAWBREAKER, "Busy" (Shredder, 181 Shipley St., San Francisco, CA 94107): I don't know how Blake Schwarzenbach does it—his voice flops around like a gaffed fish as he leads this postpunk three-piece—but he gets a hell of a lot of emotion into the title song, which suggests that maybe we can draw back a bit fro killing ourselves by overwork. The other side, "Equalized", looks at the flip side of this problem, the rise of the couch potatoes. Music with hope and regrets. (45/MG)

★★★★★

JEEM, "No Propaganda" (JimSyn Music Co., PO Box C-90 #167, Scottsdale, AZ 85252): Computer-enhanced complex synthesizer music which combines a New Age atmosphere with heavy tribal rhythms and overtones. There's a frenzied intensity to this music that makes it seem more well-rounded than most synthetic pieces, ending up with a harsh, angular beauty. (T/MG)

★★★★★

DANIEL JOHNSTON, "1990" (Shimmy-Disc, JAF Box 1187, New York, NY 10116): At last, a Daniel Johnston album that (mostly) doesn't sound like shit. I'm still not that impressed by his much-touted lyrical genius, but there are a couple songs here worth grooving on, including the psycho-scary a capella "Devil Town" and "True Love Will Find You in the End". A mix of studio and live recordings. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

J.R., "Hard Folk" (Ultrasuede Records, PO Box 19477, Cincinnati, OH 45219): J.R., a/k/a Jeff Roberson and various musicians and backing vocalists, combines traditional folk music with Appalachian and punk influences. The results are sometimes in the rebellious Anti-Folk vein. Like traditional folk and Bob Dylan (he skillfully covers Dylan's "Subterranean Homesick Blues"), J.R. provides insightful social commentary on songs like "Cold World View." Soulful and moving observations on life and love. (T/DW)

★★★★★

KASSAV', "'Sé Dam' Bonjou" (Columbia Records, 51 W. 52nd St., New York, NY 10019): A "maxi-single" of Zouk music—which means that there is one song with three different mixes, to keep you bouncing three times as long. Zouk is a French-Antillean world beat sort of music, heavy on the beat and interlaced harmonies in the fast-paced singing, which I find to be pretty soothing. This is among the best such I've heard—but that's cheating, because the only other Zouk record I have came from Kassav' as well. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

COLM KEENAN, demo tape ($5 from 2713 16th St., Sacramento, CA 95818): This one arrived as pure music—no promo pack, no cover, no details. So I popped it in and was pleasantly surprised at the result. Keenan does acoustic-based folk, sometimes edging to C&W, other times with a mildly gaelic lilt. The recording is high quality and both the tunes and the lyrics enjoyable. An unexpected treat. (T/MG)

★★★★★

DAVE KELLY, "The Police Officer Blues" ($11.25 from 262 Hawthorn Commons #337, Vernon Hills, IL 60061): I'm partial to music that tells a story; hence, I like this folky guitar-and-harmonica album even though Kelly is unabashedly pro-cop, pro-government, and anti-drug (after all, he was a cop himself for ten years). His songs touch on traffic stops, the hassles of being a suburban cop, unsolved murders, kids being neglected by their parents, and so on; some with a light touch, others deadly serious, all professional sounding. (T/MG)

★★★★★

KING MISSILE, "Mystical Shit" (Shimmy-Doisc, JAF Box 1187, New York, NY 10116): Mystical indeed, from the title tune through "Jesus Was Way Cool" through the more modern spirituality of "Cheesecake Truck". With flute, guitars, harmonica, synth tuba and more they create a wall of sound, and indeed John Hall's narrative vocals harken back to an earlier era of rock history even while the lyrics poke fun at the New Age and hippie-dippie mysticism. An enveloping musical experience. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

JOEY KLINE, "Pomp and Circus Pants" (PopLlama, PO Box 95364, Seattle, WA 98145): An album of humorous rock that's based in an acoustic, folky mode but wanders afield to ballads and barroom raucousness on occasion. I quite enjoyed "Gloss Black Pinto" (what can I say, I used to own a Pinto) and "A Couple Of Drunks", two songs which seem to speak to the youth of America. While Joey's voice and guitar lead the way, bits of flute, bagpipes, sax and other goodies spice up the music. I bet he's a great live act. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

KNEELING ON BEANS, self-titled ($4 from Shattered Wig Productions, 523 E. 38th St., Baltimore, MD 21218): Wild rock music that gets off into strange keyboard arrangements, distracting kooky covers of classic songs (including "16 Tons" and "Dang Me"), and humorous originals. They sound like a club band, but I can only imagine what sort of club they would fit into— something far from the norm, that's for sure. More garage-ish than polished, but with the spark that comes from being original and proud of it. (T/MG)

★★★★★

LA SOLITUDE, self-titled ($8 cash from ParaCult Network, Breviabox 514, Frejgatan 6, 114 21 Stockholm, SWEDEN): A sort of gothic rock project, headed up by Brandy who is simultaneously singer, guitarist and songwriter here. There are dark currents echoing through her music, a fascination with death and decadence, that should appeal to the black-clothing crowd. Some tracks appear to be electronically processed to make them even more eerie. (T/MG)

★★★★★

LIE DETECTORS, "Steel Belted Radial Burnouts From London" ($4 from PO Box 366, Sparkill, NY 10976): Downstate New York band that plays tabloid rock. Songs are topical and often political, ranging from Ollie North, the fundamentalists and George Bush to the Tidy Bowl man. They have good intentions, but the spirit doesn't carry over into the music or the lyrics. (T/LJC)

★★★★★

LMNOP, "Numbles" (Baby Sue, PO Box 1111, Decatur, GA 30031-1111): This band's combination rock/fo9lk/pop is sounding real good these days, with a polish and bouncy energy that sets it out from the pack. But watch out for those lyrics—"Looking Glass" is dedicated to the memory of CL Dodgson, while "More Like Ted" is about the singer's ambition to emulate Bundy. Admittedly, not everything is this sick, but there are a few other songs where interpretations could be awfully weird. (T/MG)

★★★★★

THE IAN LOWERY GROUP, "King Blank To" (Beggars Banquet/RCA, 1133 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036): Intense rock with an

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early punk feel to it—not surprising as Ian used to be with The Wall and the Folk Devils. There is a raw power to this reminiscent of the Dictators and other late-70's groups, and an ear for lyrics that will send you into shudders of ecstasy or terror. I'll be listening to this many more times. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

L.U.L.L., "Freakline," ($8 from Rave Records, PO Box 40075, Philadelphia, PA 19106): Heavy duty rock which sounds like a hybrid of the Rollins Band and the Cult. This features chunky guitar riffs, some excellent popping bass and tight rhythm changes. Denmark has some pretty ass-kicking bands, and this trio scores high marks on their second LP. (LP/TG)

★★★★★

LUSH, "Mad Love" (4AD, 611 Broadway #311, New York, NY 10012): I know people talk about the 4AD bands as if they were all interchangeable—I've been guilty of that myself—but Lush are off in a field of their own. Sure, they've got the complex harmonies, layered production and fuzzy guitars that characterize the label's sound. But they've also got a *cheer* that sets them apart; these songs may still be moody, but the mood is one of happiness. Post-pop that hasn't left the good times behind. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

THE M-80'S, "You've Been Told" b/w "What I'm After" (Get Hip Records, PO Box 666, Canonsburg, PA 15317): There's a lot of compressed rock history here: rhythm and blues beats and instrumentation, garage band sloppiness, thrash speed energy. The B side is better, if only because Eddie Pierce abandons lead vocals (where he tends to overextend his voice) for some harmonica blasting. Pulse-pumping music. (45/MG)

★★★★★

MAHOOTS, "Resurrection Lily" ($7 from Ramona Music, PO Box 1005, Lawrence, KS 66044): Gentle rock with a rootsy feel, featuring one of the Micronotz on drums. It's a good recording, with plenty of spirit and a few songs (notably "The Promised Land is Dead") that show real airplay potential. They remind me a little bit of the Silos, but with a somewhat harder and more passionate edge. (T/MG)

★★★★★

MALOK & MAAS, "Panama" ($1 from PO Box 41, Waukau, WI 54980): Instant artistic reaction to the U.S. invasion of Panama. It's a dense mix of noises and music, keyboardish strains plus background grinding and yowling and echoes, with the occasional shout of "Panama!" to be heard over the din. Very layered. (T/MG)

★★★★★

DAVE MARCOTTE, "Rockin The Banana Hammock: The Dave Marcotte Sessions" ($1.50 from Ordure, PO Box 1155, Plaistow, NH 03865): A live performance-art recording from 1985. It starts out with Marcotte doing various unintelligible readings over simulated crowd noise, and then gradually mutates into some sort of loopy killer guitar and echoed vocals, almost headbanging in its frenzy. Not slick, but of some interest as a cultural relic. (T/MG)

★★★★★

COLIN MARTIN, "Vox Mirage" (Unicorn Sound, 3521 Bayside Ave., Norfolk, VA 23518): This is material that ventures into the atmospheric world of late night TV, with a hint of Brian Eno. Colin's music is slow, haunting in the sense that it would make great soundtrack material. The songs prod also towards that dark world that David Bowie first brought us with "Heroes". Colin's material was not bad; I could swallow the all instrumental pieces. (T/KB)

★★★★★

ANNIE HOWARD MAXWELL, "Shadow of My Heart" (Voss Records, 300 Esplanade Dr. #760, Oxnard, CA 93030): More mellow music on CD from Voss. Guitarist Maxwell has chops and can certainly turn a phrase. Shades of We Montgomery are apparent in her sound. The tunes, however, are forgettable, rarely rising above the level of incidental music for the Movie-Of-The-Week. You might call this jazz but I'm not sure why. OK background music. (CD/WM)

★★★★★

MINOY, "The Flavor of Acid On Ice" ($8 from Minoy Cassetteworks, 923 W. 232 St., Torrance, CA 90502): The title cut fills the entire A side with manipulated static, almost masking the other sounds—a cacophony from which some order emerges, but only for the strong-willed listener. The B side, "A Whole New Generation of Postmodern Brats", is more conventionally musical, featuring synthesizers batting out notes at a furious rate, with bots of outre touches when you least expect it. Minoy continues to turn out experimental cassettes that are always worth exploring. (T/MG)

★★★★★

THE MIRACLE WORKERS, "Moxie's Revenge" (Get Hip Records, 6 Valley Brook Dr., Middlesex, NJ 08846): A collection of previously-unreleased tracks and rarities from the 1983 peak of this psychedelic/garage group. The sound quality is good and the gatefold sleeve is lovely. Of the tracks here, "You Knock Me Out" and "Psycho" sound the freshest, though like the rest they have a sort of eternal datedness about them. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

MONDAY MORNINGS, "Like a Shirt" (12743 N. 19th St., Tampa, FL 33613): Three-piece pop rock featuring Karen Collins and Mike O'Neill together on vocals and bass/guitar (respectively) duties, with Fred Stolz backing them on drums. They have a happy upbeat sound, with "Birthday Valentine" being real nice to listen to and a nice change after a day of hardcore tapes. Worth watching for more from. (T/MG)

★★★★★

MONO MEN, "Burning Bush" b/w "Rat Fink" (PO Box 2125, Bellingham, WA 98227): A new single in the Pacific Northwest garage/rock/grunge tradition. The B side is sort of surf music for power punkers, an instrumental that packs a wallop into a space just long enough to take a deep breath and appreciate. (45/MG)

★★★★★

JEREMY MORRIS, "Invisible" ($10 from Jam Records, 3424 Wedgewood Dr., Kalamazoo, MI 49008): It's been a few years since Jeremy's last release, and he's used them well. From a po-star wannabe he's grown into a good solid pop/rock musician, with a much cleaner sound here than on his previous stuff. He plays everything except the drums himself, and does everything from sheer bounce to hard rockers like "Destroy All Evil" to the wistful closing love song "My Heart is Broken Now". Mostly cheerful and fun to listen to. (T/MG)

★★★★★

MOTORCYCLE BOY, "Feel It/One Punch" (Flipside Records, Box 363, Whittier, CA 90608). EP. These guys sound like a cross between Iggy Pop and the Big Bopper played at the wrong speed, or I should say, if the Cramps sound like Elvis decomposing, Motorcycle Boy might be thought of sounding like s singing grease trap. . You could dance to it, but I can't imagine who would. Self-parody carried to the limit Worth a listen. (45/DB)

★★★★★

MOTOR MORONS, self-titled (Flipside Records, PO Box 363, Whittier, CA 90608): There has always been a special relationship between rock and roll and automobiles. With the Motor Morons, it's more like a marriage. All five songs on this 7" EP deal with cars, trucks, and girls. Rough female vocals over a pounding bass and drums is the sound here. Produced a little too cleanly, but still good summer fun listening. (EP/LJC)

★★★★★

MR. BUNGLE, "OU818" ($5 from 297 Willow St., Eureka, CA 95501): Outsleazing Dishbone and outriffing 24-7 Spyz, but never matching either (except in superficial resemblance), Mr. Bungle's excruciatingly explicit homage to pornographic sex is only briefly, mildly amusing, at best. A lyric sheet is provided so you can catch every syllable of rapid-fire delivery in songs like "Squeeze Me Macaroni" ("I wanna lock Betty Crocker in the kitchen/and knock her upper during supper...") . Ultra-slick west-coast production is as pointless as it is overkill. Definitely not for FCC-approved airplay. (T/KF)

★★★★★

MR. CURT, "Trial By Fire" ($2.35 from Camaraderie Music Cassettes, PO Box 403, Kenmore Sta., Boston, MA 02215): A 3-song cassingle from which all proceeds get donated to the AIDS Action Committee. The title cut is a snappy sounding number replete with sharp brass horn reinforcements, strangely sounding like a mutant hybrid of Spandau Ballet, Pig Bag, and the Specials. The writer's thoughts, personal and critical, on AIDS are presented here and the effect is neither doomful nor hopeful. The other cuts are less conventional: one is a capella and the other an aural collage of crackling fire and a peeling slide guitar.

★★★★★

KYLE MURRAY "The Burning Electronics"/"In Honor of Ayn Rand" ($6 from Moving Mantlepiece Productions, 3307 Hampton, Austin, TX 78705): Two works which arrived recorded on the same tape. The first features Kyle on vocals and synthesizer with backing from Darrel Jones on guitar and synthesizer; it ends up being pretty good spacy electronic rock. The B side is excerpts from **THE FOUNTAINHEAD**, but set amidst a wild crackling landscape of electronic noises that all but drown out the words, leaving only some of the texture behind. (T/MG)

★★★★★

MUTE DRIVERS, "Every One" (One Little Indian Records, 250 York Road, London SW11 3SJ, ENGLAND): Chilled-put pop with lots of gloomy edges and lyrics that are for thinking people instead of dancing fools. Pollution, AIDS, international relations and corporate captalism all show up in their lyrics, in an attempt to provoke people into actually doing things. Meanwhile you could just sit home and groove on their clean sound and eerie harmonies. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

THE MUTTNIKS, "Execution Man" (PO Box 1355, Old Chelsea Sta., New York, NY 10011): Fast-paced music that seems to have started in the garage but been driven out by some strange mutagen, so that now it seems *perfectly normal* for the band to throw in songs like "Crazy People No. 1", which speeds up until it tosses the listener completely off the record in one final explosion of notes. melodic madness. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

MYSTERY PLANE, self-titled ($5.50 from Hypertonia World Enterprises, Jan R. Bruun, PO Box 4307, N-5008 Bergen, NORWAY): This "best of" tape arrived with maddeningly little information, nothing more than a list of song titles—which is too bad, since the group really is (was?) quite good. They play a hard rock with poppy, catchy edges which ranges from Alice Cooper madness to something more akin to Big Country on "Coyote". It's all well-executed and listenable, a cut above the pack to these ears. (T/MG)

★★★★★

NEGATIVLAND, "Helter Stupid" (SST Records, PO Box 1, Lawndale, CA 90260): With this latest release these frolicsome miscreants present a very stirring treatise on the media-misinformation-manipulation-matrix (a pet thesis of their). On the first side, through the use of cut-up applications and a reworking of a previously recorded song, they recount their direct experiments with the popular media. Side two offers a jocular diatribe on corporate rock culture that singes with delightful excess. Top notch edits layered with music of verve and convolution. Plenty of wit all the way around. (T/JCM)

★★★★★

THE NEW IMPROVED JOOK SAVAGES, "The Night Nurses on a Control Trip" ($6 from Holy Funk, P.O. Box 572, Pt. Reyes, CA 94956): Imagine Bob Dylan, harmonica in hand, older and wiser but not bought out by the church or a record company. Imagine him using "fuck" a whole lot more in his songs. Imagine him not smoking as much. Imagine him singing about Idi Amin instead of failed romances. Three songs in all. (T/KJ)

★★★★★

NICE STRONG ARM, "Stress City" (Homestead, PO Box 800, Rockville Centre, NY 11571-0800): With each release, Nice Strong Arm grow stronger and more subtle as they work with their sound. Here, the band effectively captures the steel clash of metal music without employing a lot of the ponderous weight that often accompanies it. The music is limber and resilient—a if metal had attained liquid properties. It's darkly surreal, midwestern rock gone awry in a haze of clanging guitars and wracked vocals. (LP/CS)

★★★★★

NINE TWENTY NINE, "Never Before" ($3 from Dave Fischer, 7559 Red Mountain Dr., Colorado Springs, CO 80920): A four-song demo tape with a metallic, speedy sound to it and just a hint of gothic doom on "Corruption". Best bet is "Security Illusion", a song which melds those two words together to form "Seclusion" and makes some points about working with other people to survive. (T/MG)

★★★★★

NJURMANNEN, "Fejmert Betona Aktivator Reliker" ($5.50 from Jan R. Bruun, Hypertonia World Enterprises, PO Box 4307, N-5008 Bergen, NORWAY): A mix of live and studio material that starts off with some very perky pop and gradually adds more punk and gothic touches, as if the sun were setting on a cold night. There's a lot of substance here, a depth to the music that suits it for repeated listenings, even if the majority of the songs are in a language I have no hope of ever understanding. (T/MG)

★★★★★

NKVD, "Lovers of Libra" (Carl Howard, aT, 209-25 18 Avenue, Bayside, NY 11360): Synthesized gloom and industrial noise that swoons, breathes, builds and then melts into the earth, liquifying everything in its path. This is downright scary, with danger always right around the corner; a shadow in the mist, glowing green and pulsing like a heartbeat. (T/TG)

★★★★★

NOMUZIC, "The Many Teeth of God" (Carl Howard, aT, 209-25 18 Ave., Bayside, NY 11360): More disappointing and death-obsessed white dance music, which is a shame because their "god"-silla packaging is so cool. Put bluntly, a sloppy, cluttered mess of trite influence and expensive toys. Recorded "in Tohoscope", the sound quality is just plain bad, and no name could convince me it's on purpose. (T/KF)

★★★★★

NOTHING PAINTED BLUE, "A Baby, A Blanket, A Packet of Seeds" (Jupa Records, 940-C West Arrow Hwy., Upland, CA 91786): Sort of middle of the road roots rock, with a three-piece that depends heavily on Franklin Bruno's vocals to carry it. Unfortunately he has some tendency to drone, but there are songs here where the quirky lyrics and pop energy come together—"History of Zurich", a poem of love failed, is one such. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

NO USE FOR A NAME, "Let Em Out!" (Slap A Ham, PO Box 843, San Francisco, CA 94101): Punk rock on pink (ham-colored?) vinyl with a pretty blue label. "Pretty" is the last word to apply to the music though, a complex interplay of guitar and vocals. The A side is political, the B side, with "Record Thieves" and "Pacific Bell" (blasting the phone company) is more fun, for those who don't like music with a message. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

"Ocean and Flute" ($14 from Conscious Living Foundation, PO Box 9, Drain, OR 97435) One side has ocean and flute; the other, ocean and guitar. Both sides are designed by the originator, Dr. Lowenstein, to make you more alert by entraining your brainwaves to particular patterns. I didn't notice any gross changes in mental functioning, but the music is pleasant and perky enough. Comes with a free "stress meter" (i.e., a thermometer) and basic biofeedback instructions. (T/MG)

★★★★★

OMNIA OPERA, "Beyond the Tenth" (Carl Howard, aT, 209-25 18 Avenue, Bayside, NY 11360): The early '70s progressive sound with a contemporary psychedelic intenisty (a la the Bevis Frond). This has energetic jams and cool synthesized freakouts, intertwining with a Yes-ish bass and impassioned vocals. It doesn't sound like Marillion, either. (T/TG)

★★★★★

OPIATE OF THE MASSES, "Stuff and Nonsense" ($3 from PO Box 884, Bowling Green, OH 43402): A collection of improvisations, cover tunes ("Mighty Quinn") and sheer noodling madness. They claim that each copy of this tape is different from any other, which is a neat trick if they can do it. Loose rock, including the hilarious "I Am Electric", makes this fun but surprising in its quick changes. (T/MG)

★★★★★

ORDURE, "Ass Pumping Fury" b/w "Redeye" ($1 & 2 25¢ stamps from 8 Millbrook Rd., Kingston, NH 03848): These two songs come from former members of Candystriper Death Orgy and the Rex Havoc Army, as the band points out (surely a point that need not have been mentioned). The sound is similar to the industrial funk of Front 242 or the Cassandra Complex, but lacking the intensity of those bands. Elements of hardcore creep in the song "Redeye" with tempo changed and a thrashing bass. Promising. (T/LJC)

★★★★★

THE OTHER WANKERS, self-titled ($5 from PO Box 159, World Trade Centre, Melbourne 3005, AUSTRALIA): Energetic rock that wanders around a lot of territory but always comes back to extolling the virtues of wnaking—that's "masturbating", for you non-Anglophiles out there. The band is great, full of verve and with a message they really seem to believe in and some outrageous lyrics to go with it. The tape ends with an extended live jam that left me breathless. (T/MG)

★★★★★

DANIEL PACHECO, demo tape (1304 W. 49th, Austin, TX 78751): This one is real simple: guitar, vocals, some backing—and pretty low-budget. But Pacheco has something that makes his music endearing, a sort of sincerity that streamlines the user right past the presentation and into his ideas. Reminds me a bit of early Who in places, though it's not really derivative, just solid rock done by someone who obviously cares. (T/MG)

★★★★★

PALE SAINTS, "The Comforts of Madness" (4AD, 611 Broadway #311, New York, NY 10012): A good followup to their introductory EP, showing off the patchwork quilt of new sounds that is the Pale Saints. Sometimes there are portentious drumbeats, sometimes wailing guitars, sometimes squeaky vocals...but mostly this is about tunes, interwoven melodies, and a seamless approach to making a new pop sound. Overall it's refreshing, a dip in a pleasantly warmed sonic ocean. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

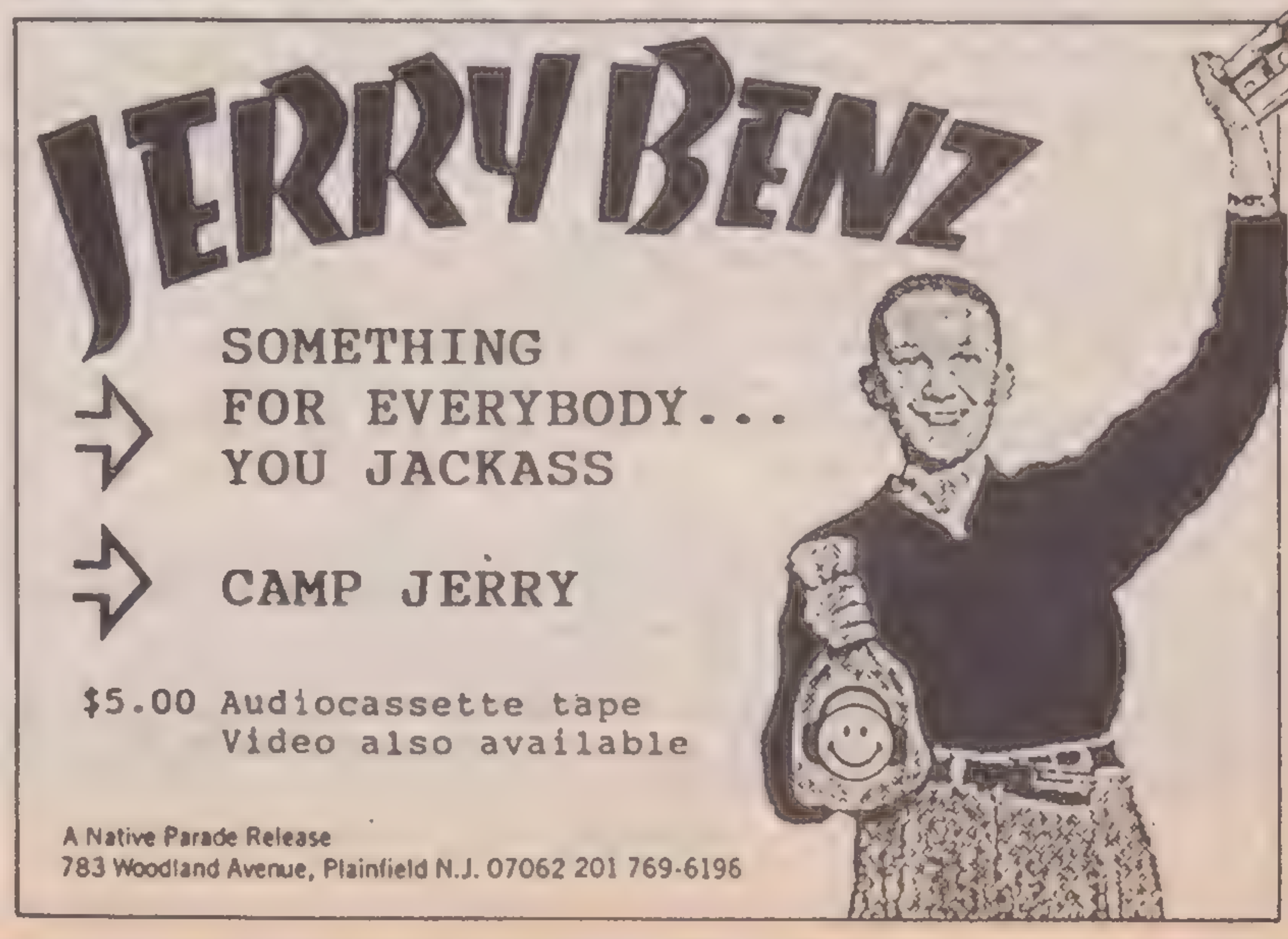
LESTER PALOCSAY, "Iceberg Dead Ahead" (3710 W. 139th St., Cleveland, OH 44111-4460): No-vocals synthetic experimentation. A lot of this didn't quite click for me, being too repetitive, or too subtly changing, for my taste. But every once in a while a phrase or a particularly nice bit of instrumentation rises above the background. It's not annoying at all, just not a flashy release. (T/MG)

★★★★★

THE PANDORAS, "Live Nymphomania" ($11.98 from Restless Records, 11264 Playa Ct., Culver City, CA 90231-6127): Proving that women can be just as tacky as men, the Pandoras use the liner notes here to list the names of all the guys they've slept with. For the most part, the music is pretty hot, though the studio versions of many songs (on their "Rock Hard" album) seem to have paradoxically more energy. If you like these bad girls of rock, though, the versions of "He's Coming" and "Six Times A Day" are worth a spin. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

PANTALOON CINEMA, "Devastating Dream Soundtrack" ($4 from Jake Berry, 2251 Helton Dr. #N7, Florence, AL 35630): I've always had this tendency to dismiss immediately any musical enterprise that I figure me and my friends could crank out in one take without even trying to sound interesting—and that seems to be about what Pantaloon Cinema did here. Side A features the lackluster guitar droning of Barry Powell (with the thrilling exception of "Piss and Flush") and side B offers the boring "free jazz" improvisations of Jake Berry, relieved only by pointless, self-indulgent conversation. Lotsa laughs, let me tell you. (T/KS)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★★★★★

PASSION FODDER, "Woke Up This Morning" (Beggars Banquet/RCA, 1133 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036): A pretty okay pop act earmarked with poetic, masculine vocals, slide guitar and violin. Their approach seems to strike a humble balance between hardiness and daintiness, Detracting from the overall recording is the mix which tends to give undue domination to the vocals. This group might be an appropriate hit for pop aficionados who dig both the Bad Seeds and Simple Minds. (LP/JCM)

★★★★★

SAL ROBERT PAUCIELLO, "Psychic beach Head" & "Ground Zero" ($5 from 9 Stanley St., Irvington, NJ 07111): Two songs, both entirely by Sal. The first is sort of experimental, ranging from feedback to guitars; the second is a standard hard rock piece. Nothing real exceptional here, just a couple of demos. (T/MG)

★★★★★

PAULOPUS INDUSTRIAL SARONG, untitled ($5 from Neal, PO Box 36, Libertyville, IL 60048): A live tape with a gothic improvisational sound. It dirges along without breaks between songs, and occasional interruptions from technology. On the flipside Neal himself noodles around with a sunthesizer, rather aimlessly for the most part but with flashes of catchy tunes. (T/MG)

★★★★★

PIERRE PERRET, "Terra" ($10 from Banne Sornay, 70150 Marnay, FRANCE): Sweetly flowing musics interspersed with the sounds of nature and rural culture. Pierre was doing this sort of thing well before "New Age" music caught on and he's still doing it better than most. From flutes to bird songs, a very relaxing and exhilarating tape. (T/MG)

★★★★★

PHALLIC SYMBOLS, "In God We Lust" (PO Box 1889, Dodge City, KS 67801): Touting themselves as Dodge City's greatest punk band the Phallic Symbols are neither punk nor a band. Dubious home recording that sounds like a practice tape contains sexist lyrics, screaming and musicians who have no idea to play for beans. "In God We Lust" is a series of nerve-wracking material that is for those people who feel mindless, insensitive, or deaf. (T/KB)

★★★★★

PINK TORPEDOS & FRIENDS, "Years #1" ($4 from Flesh Tuxedo c/o E. Fowler, 3907 Wilbert Rd. (Rear), Austin, TX 78751): If the band's name puts you in the mind of submarine races, you're on the right track; from the opening song, "Porn Rock", they're not the sort of thing you'd want your mother or the PMRC to hear. Mostly this is slow jamming rock, a bit tedious in places but with a few highlights, and an utter fascination with sex. If it was tightened up a whole lot, it would be better. (T/MG)

★★★★★

PLASTIC EYE MIRACLE, "Euphoric Voyeurs" (75¢ from Plastic Eye Miracle, c/o Doug Wofsey, 2866 Kipling NW, Massillon, OH, 44646): This entertaining duo features Ohioians Michael Gonzalez and Doug Wofsey, who conjure up pleasing, bouyant melodies with a moody, late-night feel. There's a snack-pak of sound here; a little noise, some blues, pop, funk, etc. Quirky and diverse. (T/TG)

★★★★★

POISON IDEA, "Darby Crash Rides Again" (American Leather Records, 1429 SW 14th #412, Portland, OR 97201): Portland Oregon's Poison Idea have been on the hardcore scene since the early 80's. They were angry then and they're still angry today. "Darby Crash Rides Again" is 11 demos recorded back in 1982 when the band was first recording. The music and raw vocals are just as unrelenting as their ideals expressed in the lyrics. This is punk from an uncompromising punk band. (EP/LJC)

★★★★★

POLITICAL ASYLUM/DISSENT, "Live" ($4 from Al, 100 Russett Ave., Toronto, ONT, M6H 3M3, CANADA): Two politically-oriented punk bands recorded in separate live performances. The Political Asylum performance, taped at Gilman Street during the '89 anarchist gathering, really moves; the crowd and the band both get into some righteous anger at the system. Dissent by comparison is flat, hurt by a muddy recording, though bits of energy still shine through. All profits from the tape are going to the Sea Shepherd Society. (T/MG)

★★★★★

ORIN PORTNOY, "Out Orin" (220 Central Park South #11-G, New York, NY 10015): Orin combines a bit of sixties outlook with a much harder, punkier musical style that still slips into R&B references from time to time. "We Tried to Save the World", the lead song here, is hot, and ought to be on a radio near you (which, of course, doesn't mean that it will be). "Death Row" is well-done too. (T/MG)

★★★★★

PRESIDENT FETCH, "The Eternal Need Of" ($8 from Rave Records, PO Box 40075, Philadelphia, PA 19106): Mean-ass post-punk from Denmark with teeth-grinding sections that launch into frantic juggernauts of speedcore. It reminds me of about 12 bands; the ones with crossover guitars, harsh vocals and punishing rhythms. "Hitler-Jugend-Zirkus" rips into latter-day fascists, ending with the (not as trite as it sounds) assessment that they're "Chickens in despair." Worth a listen. (LP/TG)

★★★★★

PRONG, "Beg to Differ" promo tape (Epic Records, 1801 Century park West, Los Angeles, CA 90067): Prong is on a major label now, and they're sending out samples of the new album—probably to reassure people that it's not a sellout. As far as I can tell this NYC hardcore/metal outfit is still cranking 'em out, and the restrained energy still makes these great tunes to listen to with the volume cranks up loud, knowing that nothing will be out of place or jarring. An adrenalin rush preview. (T/MG)

★★★★★

PRUDENCE DREDGE, "Special Shovel" (Spiderdog Management, 4551 5th Ave. NE, Seattle, WA 98105): Fronted by Joey Kline (whose solo album is reviewed favorably up[above someplace) this is hot horn-laden bouncy funbeat pop you can dance to, or at the very least smile to. The band's music is cheerful and idiosyncratic, and the album has a live-energy feel to it. Won't cause the cows to drop their calves early, either. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

PSYCHEFUNKAPUS, self-titled (Atlantic, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, new York, NY 10019): Somewhere to the left of Fishbone and to the east of Living Color lies the territory of Psychefunkapus. Closer in nature, really, to the old P-Funk/Funkadelic tradition, they infuse their music with a raucously hard edge a la Metallica that brings to mind those first two bands. Tight, aggressive, confident and memorable, they bring it all home in a nutshell: rock, rhythm, metal, funk and alternative. (T/CS)

★★★★★

PVC PRECINCT, self-titled ($6 from Glen Thrasher, Lowlife, 1095 Blue Ridge Ave. #2, Atlanta, GA 30306): A collection of sound experiments, from harsh industrial to soothing vocals, bouncy pop rhythms to found sound cut-ups. The tape switches style fast enough to never be boring, and has a sense of openness that keeps the lack of a groove from being annoying. Great packaging too—a 6" length of PVC pipe with a wraparound color label, which will provoke as much comment as the music itself. (T/MG)

★★★★★

RADIO GARBANZO #8/'KNBS #17 ($4 *CASH* & a Maxell or TDK 90-minute chrome cassette from DVS, PO Box 452, Wellsville, NY 14895): A pair of pirate radio programs from the shortwave band. Radio Garbanzo plays 60s music and goes for underground-paper type of humor—sexually suggestive names, acid in the newsman's coffee, and so on. KNBS stands for "Cannabis", and they're a pro-marijuana station. Both of these shows feature strong pitches for civil rights and some decent rock music. (T/MG)

★★★★★

RADIO MOUTH BANDITS, "Attack of the Groovy Bushman" (1302 E. Michigan, Urbana, IL 61801): The folks involved cheerfully admit to being "in the vein of the Firesign Theater". But unlike many homemade comedy productions, this one is well done, almost infinitely complex *and* well-produced. It's set in a post-nuclear world with government-enforced consumerism, life-threatening game shows, and a plot to rule the world. Sort of like cyberpunk as seen by the Marx Brothers. Find out how much this costs and get a copy, especially if you're a broadcaster; they even throw in some teaser commercials for free. (T/MG)

★★★★★

RAINDOGS, "Lost Souls" (Atco, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10019): Led by Mark Cutler (x-Schemers), this band's major-label debut is a slick collection of rock with roots influences going back into C&W and Cajun music. It seems to ooze sincerity, and has a young man's cynicism towards a world where things simply do not work out for the best. Proficient but basically pretty unexciting. (T/MG)

★★★★★

RANDOM KILLING, "This Whole World" (Aardvark Records, 60 Castle Knock Rd., Toronto, ONT, M5N 2J7, CANADA): Powerful but clean and crisp hardcore with socially-conscious lyrics. Some are pretty serious, as with "Subway Suicide" and "Kill Your Parents"; others, like "S.O.L.", display a lighter touch, though of course this is relative. There's a lot of rage burbling beneath the surface here, coming out in a welter of guitars and powerful vocals. (T/MG)

★★★★★

GARY RATTIGAN, "Pursuit of Happiness" (24 Benedict St. Somerville, MA 02145): Sampled sounds like film dialogues, found sounds like the ocean, and machine noises. "psychotherapy often takes a long long time" is an interesting mix of a talk radio psychologist with a tinny barroom piano in the background. Side two consists of six industrial machine noise compositons that are well done but not remarkable. Nicely compiled and edited. For fun, try to identify the actors and films Rattigan uses. (T/DW)

★★★★★

REBEL FORCE, self-titled (Missouri Bootleg, Box 410211, Kansas City, Mo.) Well produced tape by a tight group. Christoper Huston is a classy guitar player, and the four songs here are strong. I especially liked Quantrills Raiders. They may fall between the cracks. They are probably too good to make the big leagues, and at least so far lack the vision and bite to attract much attention from serious fans of independent music. Well worth listening to. (T/DB)

★★★★★

PAWNEE RIBBER, "Oktobertape '89" ($5 *CASH* from PO Box 255, Monticello, NY 12701): A crazy cutup tape, featuring some original music plus a lot of classic stuff from radio shows (Steve Allen, Bob and Ray, some mystery theater thing) and other obscure sources. Ribber is a master of the sound collage, and this hour and a half has some delightful obscurities as well as headscratching puzzlers on it. (T/MG)

★★★★★

THE RIGHT BRAIN BROTHERS, "Nirvana Nervosa" (Native Parade, 783 Woodland Ave., Plainfield, NJ 07062): The A side of this tape is rock music that gets more and more nasty as things go on, from "Sex is Everything" through "People Suck" to the altered cover "I'm Not Glad". On the B side they give up[singing altogether and instead bash through the title tune, a lengthy exploration of hard rock with acidic touches. Sorta fun, especially when you're in a bad mood already. (T/MG)

★★★★★

ROCK, "Levy" ($5 from HTH Productions, PO Box 63, 83501 Outokumpu, FINLAND): Hard rock that swings from current sounds back to the era of garages. One of these songs may in fact be a Finnish-language cover of "Love Potion No. 9", though I'm not positive. They bash along through four songs here, and even though I can't understand a word they're saying, I enjoyed the power and texture of the sound. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

THE ROTTERS, "Presumed Dead in Japan" (Baka Records, PO Box 931013, Los Angeles, CA 90093-1013): A release from a band who've been barely heard from in the last 13 years. This is high energy, raucuous punk 'n roll with scratchy guitars and a ton of fun songs. "I Wanna Be Cloned" is a testament to over-the-edge narcissism, but "Like You" is the flipside: "Stains in my underwear/snot in my nose/my belly's so fat/I can't see my toes." Bring on the spring! (LP/TG)

★★★★★

SACK, "Gott Sei Punk" (Harald "Sack" Ziegler, Eupener Str. 42, D-5000 Köln 41, WEST GERMANY): The title seems a bit of a misnomer for these pieces, which use a church organ as their main instrument—although a few other sounds are thrown in for reggae or horror versions of some songs. Sack plays complex unfolding melodies in a classical tradition, and the organ lends them a ponderous authority. Way off the beaten path. (T/MG)

★★★★★

SACK, "Tip Top" ($4.50 from Hyprtonia World Enterprises c/o J.R. Bruun, Box 4307, N-5008 Bergen, NORWAY) More crazy wierdness from Hypertonia, including the opening song, "Lied Der Konigin" whose beautiful (despite the creaky falsetto) melody pops up here and there in different forms. There's all sorts of little goddies here, including mixtures of intriguing sounds and some really great live and studio recordings. Truly entertaining.(T/CR)

★★★★★

SALTY DOG, "Every Dog Has Its Day" (Geffen Records, 9310 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90069-6197) Painfully predictable hard rock from this quartet of messy-look tresses. The lyrics are so bad they're almost funny, and the music is mediocre at best. Everything about Salty Dog looks like a band that played imitative hard rock covers at high school dances and now lacks the creativity to put together palatable origional material or come up with an origional style. (T/CR)

★★★★★

SANCHEZ, "Number One Dub" (ROIR, 611 Broadway #411, New York, NY 10012): This one is billed as "Dance Hall Dub"; what that seems to mean is a lighter sound than most dub, more vocals, less engineering wizardry, but still a mostly-instrumental reggae feel. Sanchez takes inspiration from all over, from the traditional "Mexican Divorce: to versions of Tracy Chapman songs. (T/MG)

★★★★★

SATELLITE BOYFRIEND, "Yes Ma'am" (Stew Records, PO Box 6115, Raleigh, NC 27608): Engaging pop/rock with Mitch Easter production on a couple of tracks. The group does not yet have the poise and polish of the Silos, but otherwise they sound very similar, with a country vocal overtone and good solid roots music. Sure to get some college radio airplay. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

ANDREW SAVAGE, "Glojjunipidnops" ($750,000,000 and 5 IRCs, according to the label, from Tapeworm Tapes, 81 Castlerigg Drive, Burnley, Lancs., BB12 8AT, ENGLAND): A dozen and a half comedy sketches, some rather Pythonesque, some degenerating into ribald silliness. The sound quality is generally rather poor, which doesn't matter too much since there's pretty well no music. Odd bits include "The Carrott Sketch", "Trainee Dracula", and "Tell Lies To Policemen". (T/MG)

★★★★★

SCATTERBRAIN, "Here Comes Trouble" promo tape (In-Effect Records, 187-07 Henderson Ave., Hollis, NY 11423): Manic upbeat rock with a sense of humor that makes me want to hear the full LP. The showcase (and show-off) tune here is an arrangement of Mozart's Sonata No. 3 for electric guitar which absolutely cooks. (T/MG)

★★★★★

SERAH, "Flight of the Stork" (Great Northern Arts, 114 Lexington Ave., New York, NY 10016): A very New Agey feeling release, this one comes with an illustrated, calligraphed lyric booklet on fine stock. Serah has a high flighty voice, accompanied here by string quartets, keyboards, percussion, guitars and natural sounds—lots of running water, for example. The lyrics are all about the oneness of the world and the artificiality of national boundaries. A pretty batch of music. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

SHOCKABILLY, "Just Beautiful" (Shimmy-Disc, JAF Box 1187, New York, NY 10116): Not really a "new" record from Chadbourne, Kramer and Licht but their "first official vinyl live release". The trio of manic feedback musicians take on and demolish such standards as "Georgia in a Jug", "Psychotic Reaction", and "Heartfull of Soul", along with abusing their audience and assorted garden tools. Shockabilly play rock, sort of, but I think they're playing to win. I find their aural overkill to be almost relaxing. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

SHRINKWRAP, "Paste" ($4 from Audio-Sadism, PO Box 11831, Pittsburgh, PA 15228): Feedback, distorted vocals, crashing and clanging, industrial noise sounds come leaping out of your speakers on insertion. And yet there are tunes here, a very structured music that just happens to use tones we are less accustomed to to make its point. I found it almost soothing to let the tortured screams and clanging metal wash over me. (T/MG)

★★★★★

THE SILLY CLUB, "The Second Illustrious Phonographic Recording of P.U.N." ($5 from PO Box 536583, Orlando, FL 32853): In this relentlessly (but intentionally) stupid series of comedy vignettes, the Silly Club comes off like a distant, inbred relative of the Firesign Theatre. In their more creative moments, they exploit the audio medium quite well: using muddy sound to simulate hilarious "folk archives" recordings in an otherwise toothless parody of PBS-style documentaries, and satirizing the old "We'll-talk-you-down" scene in airplane disaster movies with an out of control sound board. Generally, though, they tend towards the sophomoric and self-indulgent; the whole thing gets old fast. (T/KS)

★★★★★

THE SILOS, self-titled (RCA Records, 1133 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036): This band has moved onto a major label without watering down their strong roots rock sound a bit; it's things like this that make me happy to be on major label promo lists. I've loved this band since I heard their "Cuba" album, and they sound just as good here; they put the listener in mind of the great plains, strong families, and happy days and nights. If they make it big, they deserve it. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

ART SIMON/ALVA SVOBODA, "The Delicate Prayer" ($5.25 from Swinging Axe Productions, PO Box 199, Northridge, CA 91328): As a worthy piece of experimental music should, this on escorts the listener through intricate and varying experiential levels, dispatched by an assortment of sound sourced (including tasteful synths, multiplexed shortwave fax transmissions and an instrument assembled of bolts, springs, combs and piano wire). Parts of the piece embrace a profound nimbleness which build to a frenzied excitement. I only wished for more repetition within the piece which would've deepened the listening experience. But like an effective prayer, this tape grimaced with grace and fear. (T/JCM)

★★★★★

SKINNER BOX, self-titled (Bobok, PO Box 43787, Tucson, AZ 85733): Dreamy dirge-like music with such cheerful titles as "Born to Be Ice" and "A Low Bird". Julianna Towns voice keeps it moving with fragile beauty, although after a while the unusual keyboard changes get to be a bit depressing. One for the dressed in black set. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

SLOPPY SECONDS, "Destroyed" (Toxic Shock, PO Box 43787, Tucson, AZ 85733): Everybody compares these four guys to the Dickies and the Ramones—and on the lyrical side they're right, though their music is harder than that of the D-boys. "Veronica" is a song about suicide—balanced by "I Want 'Em Dead", about murder. There's teen-sex-angst laments (several gender's worth), a cover of "The Candy Man" to send Sammy spinning in his grave, and the modern paranoid "Runnin' From the CIA". Lotsa laughs for the not quite politically correct. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

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SOOTHING SOUNDS FOR BABY, "Where Do I Sign" (Matt Kaden, Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY 12504): Any baby that would be soothed by this jangly clashing guitar rock would be a strange one indeed. In their general tone as well as their swooping changes from introspective rock to sound explosions, these folks rather resemble the Flaming Lips, but their lyrics are if anything stranger and the music a tad less accessible. Repeated listenings reveal quite a depth here. (T/MG)

★★★★★

THE SOUNDS OF OUR SAVIOR, "Live 02" ($3 from Randy Lancelot, Zadfruc, PO Box 3592, Oak Park, IL 60302): Improvised party noise featuring snippets of tape, high tech sounds, feedback, squeaky noises, and who knows what else. Pretty ambient overall, with slow or no development in many spots, but there are some brightly aggressive moments. (T/MG)

★★★★★

SPECTRAL INCURSION, self-titled (Steve Lytle, 190 Kingsbury Ave., Bradford, MA 01835): Rather bombastic metallic rock—it puts me a bit in the mind of the Stonehenge song that Spinal Tap performed. Technically fairly well done, with death metal lyrics, but lacking a certain spark that would bring it out of the pack. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

SPLENDOR HEAD, "Mirth" (CFY Records, PO Box 6271, Stanford, CA 94309): A powerful young band with an unfortunate tendency to get mired in Sonic Youth-like sludge. But every once in a while they rise above, especially with the closing song "She Is A Girl", which manages to stick in the mind as well as an AM-radio oldie without being insipid. Reminds me a bit of some of the stuff on Sub Pop, though not quite as noisy. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

STONE TALK #1 ($3 from Doug Martin, PO Box 44, Universal, IN 47884): The first of a new series of cassettezines from Toad Hiway Press. This issue includes some back-masked music from 38¢ short, poetry ranting by D. Watt, some gentler, folky rock by Doug Martin and Brian Beatty, and some just plain noise. A bit uneven, but overall a good selection of sounds and songs. (T/MG)

★★★★★

ICHABOD STOWE, "It's My Turn" ($8 from Gadfly Records, PO Box 6603, New York, NY 10128): Roots/folk rock with upbeat sounds and keen individualistic lyrics. The title cut really shine, an extended romp through the world of conformity by a dedicated nonconformist (I particularly like his response to dress codesL:"sneakers and jeans and a t-shirt"). "Put Me Back Where I Belong" is more traditionally serious, a look at the contradictions of good ends and bad means. Touches of sax, piano, organ and bells dress up a basic acoustic and bass guitar sound. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

STUMBLING WAY, "Home Again" b/w "Mammon" (23 Heather Dr., Trenton, NJ 08638): This band's been playing around the New Jersey club scene for a while now and they're sounding good, with a polished and full rock sound with crisp clean hard edges. "Mammon" starts off with an extended instrumental introduction which does more to establish the band as a unit than to let individuals show off, and gradually moves into lyrics which thoughtfully blast modern society. (45/MG)

★★★★★

STUMPY JOE, "Daydream" b/w "Basket Case" (Estrus Records, PO Box 2125, Bellingham, WA 98227): Northwest rock that seems to be proud to bill itself as "the next Sonics, only drunker." Whatever blurbismo they can get the critics to come up with, "Basket Case" is an old-fashioned rocker, heavy on the guitars and with a streak of adolescent rebellion a mile wide. Fun and energetic. (45/MG)

★★★★★

THE STUMP WIZARDS, "Smokestack" (Get Hip/Skyclad, 6 Valley Brook Dr., Middlesex, NJ 08846): My first impression was of all this energy: street energy, scrappy energy, thundering full steam with a sludgey, wall of sound force behind it. It packs quite a punch, that energy—so much so that you almost don't notice that underneath it all there's some pretty clever use of riffs and hooks working alongside to make it all memorable. The end result is a gleeful fuzz/buzz celebration of metal pop punk garage music. (LP/CS)

★★★★★

STUKAS, self-titled ($4 from S. Fagerberg, Tradgardsgatan 12, S-59600, Dkanninge, SWEDEN): Shades of the Borstal Breakout infused with a zealous Ramones jolt of energy. Both songs here are fresh and boisterous and you can't help but get caught up in them. I can't wait to hear more. (45/CS)

★★★★★

SUCTION, "Heinous Systems Corporation"(Moron, Box 40122, Harbour Square Postal Outlet, Victoria, BC V8W 3N3, CANADA): Sincere punk rock with lots of effort—unfortunately recorded at a level where distortion from the mike pretty well kills the musical effect. What's left are shouted vocals, guitars, and a lyric sheet which suggests that in person some of these would be fine oppositional numbers. (T/MG)

★★★★★

SUDDEN INFANT, "Sound of Breaking Glass" (Sfr. 10 from Schimpfluch, c/o Imuluss, PO Box 4804, 8022 Zurich, SWITZERLAND): The title is descriptive, not allegorical. This is a live recording of the sound of breaking glass, that of wine bottles. It comes with photographic documentation, a few bits of the broken glass, and a catalog of Schimpfluch's other experimental media offerings. (45/MG)

★★★★★

THE SWINGING ERUDITES, Unchained Parodies (1 Dimensional Records, PO Box 923, Northampton, MA 01080): A musically varied collection of, yes, parodies. Some of these are funny as hell—"Yuppie Man", "Frankie and Annette meet Jim and Tammy" and "The Paul McCartney Massacre" are in this category. But sensitive listeners shouldn't; the group is not above a remake of "Springtime for Germany" or much humor that depends on the shock value of homosexuality. Still, I liked this record, even if some of their shots were socially unacceptable enough to be disturbing. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

SWINGIN' TEENS, "Transfixation" ($8 from Prospective Records, PO Box 6425, Minneapolis, MN 55406): Don't let the name fool you into expecting quaint pop; this is hard-driving hard rock, with a rather metallic side A leading into a more mellow flip. It ends with the mammoth 12-minute-plus "Greenbriar Inn", which manages to avoid that bloated feeling by dropping further and further into eeriness as it goes on. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

BILLY SYNDROME, "Vicious Burger" (109 Records, 115 St. Mark's Pl., New York, NY 10009): Hillbilly tunes from this New York performer who sings of Jim Jones, rock music, religion and fast society.. "Vicious Burger" aligns itself with the anti-folk movement that has engulfed NYC with the likes of Cindy Lee Berryhill, Roger Manning, and Kirk Kelly. The tracks go from screeching vocals to quiet acoustic strumming. Billy does not place himself in the likes of the true "traditional" folk artist (check out his rendition of Woody Guthrie's "Pretty Boy Floyd"). Rather he uses outside forces such as bass, electric guitars, and trumpets. (LP/KB)

★★★★★

THE TAIL GATORS, "Hide Your Eyes" (Restless Records, PO Box 3628, Culver City, CA 90231-3628): Texas-based rockabilly that's been moving into the public consciousness fast. The band sounds like they're having a good time on tunes like "Long Tall Young Boy" and "Rockin' in the 1990's" despite a tight control of the music that keeps everything moving quickly along. Sometimes it doesn't feel quite real, with a music that should be friendly and down-home smoothed off and packaged for fame. But mostly it's just good to listen to and tap along with. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

TANGERINE RADIO 1990 ($4 from Rick Harrison, PO Box 547014, Orlando, FL 32854): Perhaps someday this anarchist show will go out over the networks; meanwhile, Rick puts it out as an annual tape series. This one discusses repression in the workplace, from computer monitoring to drug testing. It also reviews a few interesting bits of the anarchist press. Professional sounding but decidedly subversive. (T/MG)

★★★★★

VIC TAYBACK, "Why Does Herr R Run Amok" (Stungus, P.O. Box 6963, San Mateo, CA 94403): Another run-of-the-mill collage cassette containing the obligatory snippets from late night cable TV, 60's rock classics, radio chatter and patriotic anthems all juxtaposed and slowed down/sped up with disastrous results. Phillip Perkins, Nicholas Collins, and a few others are about the other ones who can meld dissimilar sounds into a coherent whole without boring and annoying their listeners. There are already hundreds of other people attempting to imitate them, but most (like Vic) have no understanding of what they are trying to accomplish or why. (T/KJ)

★★★★★

TEEN LESBIANS AND ANIMALS, "2000 Lesbian D.J.'s" ($4 from Ecto Tapes, 5912 N.W. 62nd Terrace, Oklahoma City, OK 73122): A psychoneurotic adventure that careens out of control with murmered vocals and throbbing rhythm tracks. The best remake I've heard of a Big Black song (Racer X) tops off side 1. Side 2 is a surprisingly well-recorded live performance in Oklahoma City. (T/KJ)

★★★★★

TERMINAL MYCOSIS, "Nine of Cups" (Potters Wheel Records, PO Box 158324, Nashville, TN 37215): Waves of sound, with burbling and an overlay of what may be Hitler's Nuremburg speech. Other-worldly noises mix with bouts of more melodic stuff to form a curtain of difference between the listener and the music. The B side appears to be the entire A side recorded backwards. It sounds just as good. (T/MG)

★★★★★

TERROR PLAN, "Sub-Urban Experiments" (Carl Howard, aT, 209-25 18 Ave., Bayside, NY 11360): This mostly instrumental effort has repetitive drum machine and synth lines, all moving along at a fairly quick pace. It's arty, danceable, ethereal and altogether fairly interesting. There are some jarring moments and weird sounds, giving it a sporadic urgency. You'll either hit onto a pulsating Zen plateau or be bored to shit with this one. (T/TG)

★★★★★

THEATRE OF ICE, "Murder the Dawn" (Orphanage Records, 1702 W. Camelback Rd. #315, Phoenix, AZ 85015): The band's first full-length vinyl gives them the chance to explore beyond their usual gothic mood music, and they do it well. "Everybody Likes Miron" is an upbeat party song for psychopaths, while "Alave/Bonfire" adds a touch of metal to the darkness. They close with a self-titled paean to television. Then there's "Christina", one of the most wistful suicide songs ever written. These boys have been perfecting their music for a long time, and this is a display of the effort they've put into it. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

thedrowningbreathing, "Ennui" ($3 from Michael Pittard, 632 State Capitol Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70802-5260): It's pretty clear "thedrowningbreathing" has spent a lot of time grooving to albums on the 4AD label—the melancholy chord progressions, unintelligible effects-laden vocals, and even the Cocteau Twins fuzz-guitar/delay combination are all mimicked here almost perfectly. Probably the best homebuilt British gloom-rock imitation you're liable to come across. An inspired forgery. (T/KS)

★★★★★

THEE EVOLUTION REVOLUTION, self-titled (Get Hip Records, PO Box 666, Canonsburg, PA 15317): Heavy, grinding thick grunge powered by a 60's influenced rhythm section giving it a piquant edge. Side one is more contemporary, with more of an industrial emphasis. Side two goes for a lighter touch, a little 60's surger party attitude mixed in. (45/CS)

★★★★★

THIN WHITE ROPE, "Sack Full of Silver" (Frontier/RCA, 1133 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036): Well, I was expecting just one more college rock band—but this stuff is damned good, if hard to define. Guy Kyser has one of those experienced, raspy voices that whaps you upside the head and demands attention, and the rock/roots/c&w/whatever music behind it flows in and out, triggering primal synapses. I really enjoyed the title cut and "the Ghost", the latter a tale of the futility of life that really hit home. Hot stuff. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

THIS WINDOW, "Jude the Obscure" (£3 from M4TR, 63 Crabtree Lane, Sidemoor, Bromsgrove, Worcs. B61 8NY.UK): This pushes the limits of eclectic, avant-garde rock, throwing experimental, pop, punkabilly, psychedelic and ambient music into the kettle and coming up with richly textured songs that range in sound from the Black Sun Ensemble to Live Skull and way, way beyond. Innovative and compelling throughout. (T/TG)

★★★★★

THREE ROCK GODS, "Coring Device" ($3.50 from Big Red Ant c/o Sir Richard Duckworth, 330 E. 63rd St., New York, NY 10021): Hard-edged funky rock centered on the properties of some mysterious coring device, which sounds rather scary though the singer never quite spells it out. The music in the back bounces and bangs about, and there's a certain urgency here which tends to tighten the listener into a ball of angst. (T/MG)

★★★★★

TOADSTOOL, "Jelly Belly" b/w "Nothing But Teeth" and "Song to the Night" (Twin\Tone, 2541 Nicollet Ave. S, Minneapolis, MN 55404): The first song is an incredible din of battling guitars with a flaky, devil-may-care attitude towards actually constructing a song. But things calm down considerably by "Song to the Night", a rootsy Midwest rock number with nasty downbeat lyrics that's well-done. I sense an uncontrolled energy here, with the final sound of the band still up in the air. (45/MG)

★★★★★

TOAD THE WET SPROCKET, "Pale" (Columbia Records, 51 W. 52nd St., New York, NY 10019): Shimmering complex harmonic music, that I guess is some sort of rock even though that seems inadequate for their layers of music. The lyrics are somewhere between introspective and confusing, with a spiffy little lyric booklet—at least in the colored vinyl promo version. Moody but exhilarating. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

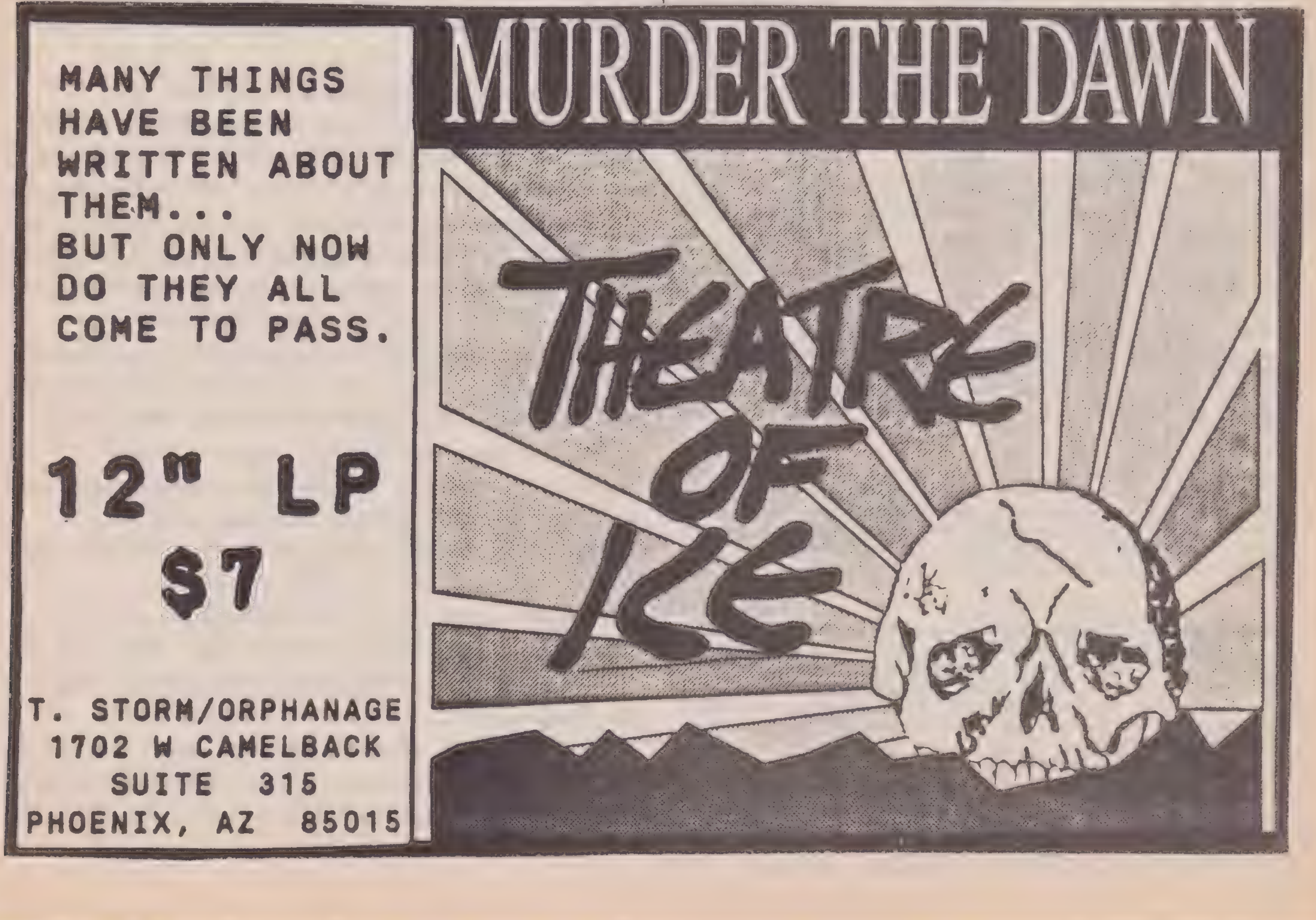
TRAPEZOID MONKS, self-titled ($4.50 from 442 109th SE, Bellevue, WA 98004): A demo tape with a low-budget garagey sound. Some of their songs, like "She Walks On the Ceiling" are sort of cute and catchy, but the vocals are pretty marginal as music. Still, there's an energy here and an appeal to just be happy and listen that's rather attractive. (T/MG)

★★★★★

TRENCH MOUTH, "Snakebite" ($3 from Fred Armisen, 3722 N. Clark, Chicago, IL 60613): A bit of punk/pop crossover that shows real promise. I especially liked "Ultraman", which brings in rapid changes of pace to keep the listener off balance. This group has a full and idiosyncratic sound; if they can catch a few years and keep developing it, I look forward to hearing from them again. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

THE TRIKES, "Biscuit Days" (16923 Chatsworth St., Granada Hills, CA 91344): A happy-go-lucky mix of rock, pop and who knows what else (notably some folk influence). Their best numbers, like "Bicycles & Cars" are manic dance numbers, silliness set to music with a driving beat and a lot of exuberance. "Dasvedanya Means Goodbye" is another fine cut, even if they did choose to put it in the middle of the album instead of at the end. (LP/MG)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★★★★★

TROUBLE, self-titled (Geffen Records, 9130 Sunset Plaza, Los Angeles, CA 90069): Hard metallic rock with a lot of anti-drug messages—so many, in fact, that it's going to make some listeners uncomfortable. But there's some good music here, notably the Neal Youngish electrical "The Misery Show (Act II)" and the extended metal guitar jam "R.I.P." (T/MG)

★★★★★

THE TROUBLE WITH LARRY, "Otto Messmer" b/w "The Rodent Song" ($1.75 from Richard Sarvay, Good Kitty Records, 201-A N. Davis Ave., Richmond, VA 23220): It's the second song here that's worth repeated listens. The rodents in question are of the two-legged sort, but that's not important when compared to the tight and powerful sound of this three-piece, bursting with heavy drums and impressive guitars. A melody that hammers into your brain. (45/MG)

★★★★★

TWO SMALL BODIES, "North 421" (PO Box 25834, Lexington, KY 40524-5834): Rootsy four-piece rock with a sort of backwoods sound that's been polished until it all fits together well. They don't do any fireworking on this record, just straightforward tunes like "I'm Serious" and "Carnival" that drag the listener along in a welter of guitar lines and vocal harmonies. Pleasant but unexceptional. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

UNDERCURRENT, "Functionally Illegitimate" ($5 from Bill Jaeger, 506 W. Johnson Dr., Payson, AZ 85541): A ponderous juggernaut of a tape, whose slow-moving near-industrial strains seem to continue reverberating around the room long after the player has shut itself off. It's anchored on side one by a steady but slow beat, and on side two by droning noises. "Sounds for Subconscience Awakening" is the self-description here—isn't there something in the Cthulhu mythos about not awakening things that you can't put down? (T/MG)

★★★★★

UNHOLY ALLIANCE, New York (Something Else Records, 120-16 Cove Ct., College Pt., NY 11356). I may have the title of this EP wrong. It's hard to tell. At first my turntable wasn't tracking right, and I thought this might be called spook minimalism, but it turned out to be a cross between muddy metal and a Halloween sound effects tape (interesting but not as interesting as spook minimalism). Fairly predictable stuff. To think that this is what the wondrous, unholy goofiness of Aleister Crowley comes to. (45/DB)

★★★★★

UNTIED STATES OF AMERICA #1 ($2 from Dave, PO Box 2143, Stow, OH 44224): An hour or more of mostly meaningless sounds, wails of synthesizers, repetitive guitars (no vocals—I shudder to think what they might have been like), squealing noises. It's all redeemed by the cover, though, which in no uncertain terms condemns the call for a "Fart Strike" ("I guess I'll never understand intellectuals"). This takes it from torture to the level of being bearable. (T/MG)

★★★★★

UP-TIGHT, self-titled ($3.50 from 200 Bentree Ln. #D1, Florence, SC 29501): Seven inches plus nine songs equals thrash-paced punk. Some of this is pretty funny, like the closing ten seconds of "Let the Sun Shine In". Other bits, like the blast aimed at "Nazi Skins" are dead serious (but then why the intolerance for the "College Crowd"?). Fortunately a lyric sheet is supplied, because about two out of three syllables get lost completely in the blistering pace. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

THE VAGRANTS, "Lost" (1211 Everett, El Cerrito, CA 95430): Fairly melodic post-punk that moves along quite choppily through a rapid series of songs. With no PR and no lyric sheet, the music pretty well has to stand on its own, and it can do so, although there's not much polish here yet. But they've got the hooks to stick in your ears and the energy to set them there. (T/MG)

★★★★★

CHUCK VAN ZYL, "Callisto" ($7 from PO Box 22, Upper Darby, PA 19082): Space synthesizer music, with one piece inspired by Jupiter's moon Callisto and the other by its major crater Valhalla. Van Zyl composes soundscapes with a majestic slow-moving base and multiple faster overlays, building and receding and building again. The whole is indeed a cosmic experience, two 18-minute pieces that seem neither bloated nor overextended. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Alternative England" (Hypertonia World Enterprises, , PO Box 4307, N-50008 Bergen, NORWAY): While the offerings on this compilation do absolutely nothing to disprove the notion that Britain is, indeed, headquarters to all that is doomy and gloomy in current music, it does, at least, prove with good reason why this is so. At its best it offers up material reminiscent of a demented Bauhaus or Siouxsie (one song reminded me of a Cramps interpretation of a B-52's song done by early New Order). At its worst it confirms every nightmare you've ever dreaded hearing from the UK (fortunately those are few and far between). Even when the energy level seems to be brisk, darkness lingers. (T/CS)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Broome Closet: Anti-Folk Sessions" (109 Records, 115 St. Marks Pl., New York, NY 10009): A collection of rag tags who rattle about

THE THYLACINE AND THE TIGER QUOLL

(for Jas. H Duke, Melbourne, Australia)

by Misha

Art by Ferret

Nyangunanta. I saw you.

A bugeen has come in soft white flakes falling on the red dust of your land. No matter how the earth opens her mouth to drink, she is still covered with the whiteness, her thirst still burns under a sun whirling like a big brass tray.

White disks are smoldering on your shoulders and flanks. With white eyes you are seeing across the ocean to my land. Reach for my face in the fire. Your tiger's eye sees my tiger's primordial smile. The tiger quoll meeting the tiger wolf in a land of rusted metal, by the light of your white discs and the shadow of my black bars.

We're meeting across the water in a dream time. Our glances of topaz and iodine—grasping a hear—gloved laughter.

Crimson sand is scouring a smile off your face.

I fall to my knees and lap the dust. Bloodthirsty art slithers there. I see you in the papunya, painting of sand, singing and booming of dunes more eloquent than strains of Satie.

Thylacine is an eye juggler. Her rows of sharp white teeth and slender jaws speak a uniform joke around the island. The white yunga is reaching out his eight grasping arms. You slice them away with blades of the spinifex.

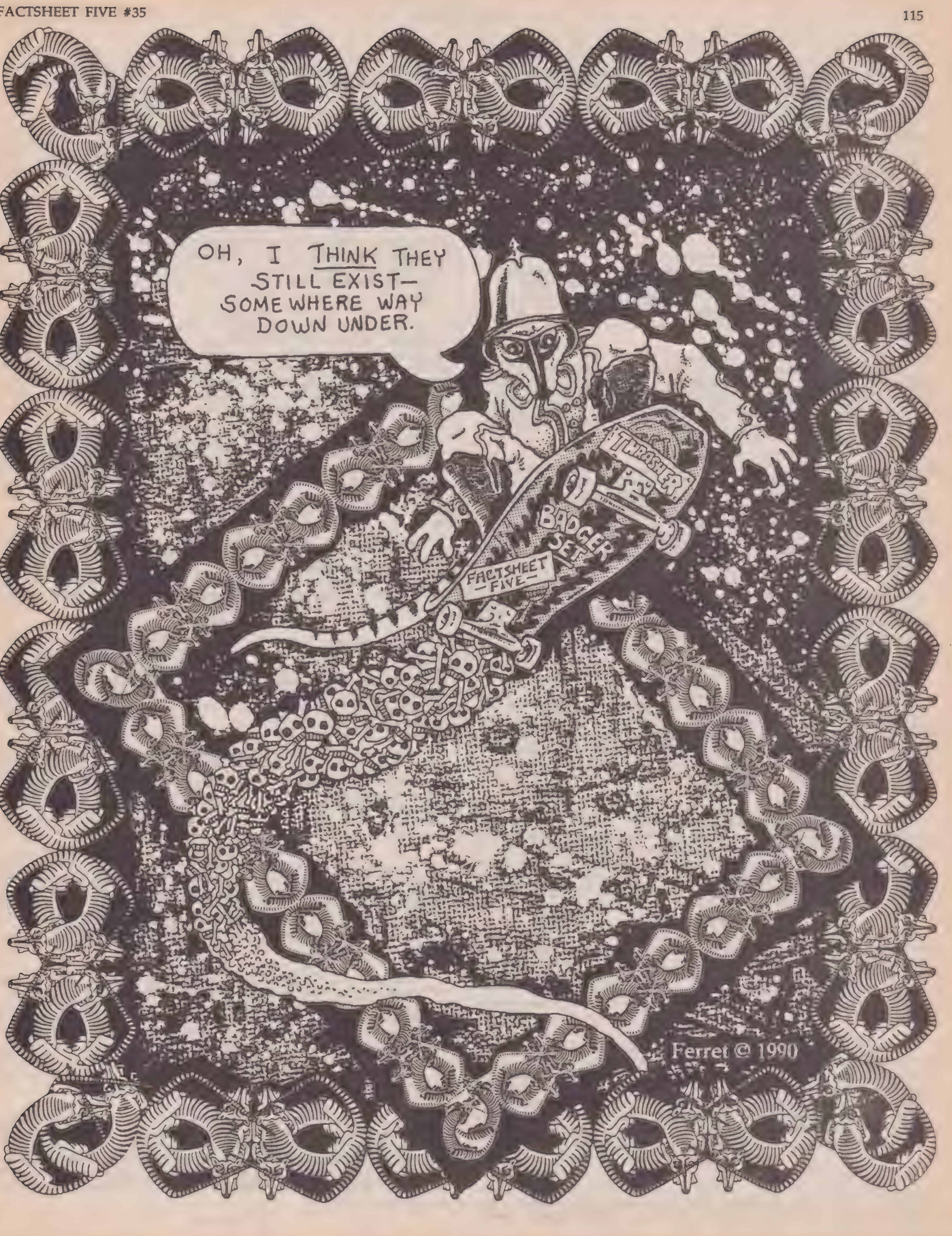
We have gone back beyond the ways of our grandmothers and grandfathers. Back to the time of Numbakalla where our self-made forms were plastic and shifting. Hour after hour of changing skins until our nari becomes our face.

Our new worlds are covered with a disease-ridden trade blanket, a gesture of greeting from nations of fools.

High above my head I hear the chant of the tiger quoll. Our mineral eyes meet, raking in our losses.

Take this blazing sand. Take this thick red dirt. Take this faltering forest and parched ocean of hide. Tiger quoll, you cock your ears and howl, to the accompanying snigger of the Tasmanian wolf.

A mirage of evil shimmers above the desert. But there is a juraveel waiting. From here you can just see the fifth world. Walk backwards into it, careful to step into your own tracks.


OH, I THINK THEY STILL EXIST— SOMEWHERE WAY DOWN UNDER.
THRASHER
BADGER SET
FACTSHEET FIVE
Ferret © 1990

how great it is to be free or to try to be free from society. The artists range from Cindy Lee Berryholl to John S. Hall on this platter that preaches with an attitude, according to chief spokesman Roger Manning. You get spoken word pieces, full-tilt acoustic jams and short 30-second songs. Listening to a whole record you might get sick of all folk records but don't judge this on one play. Suzie Unger may be a star to look out for in the near future. (LP/KB)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Canada" (Harsh Reality, PO Box 241661, Memphis, TN 38124-1661): Another in the continuing series of national electronic music collections from Harsh Reality. The stadout group here is Darren Copeland & Company, who produce a pair of extended, almost spacy numbers, with sharp edges lurking to impale the unwary listener. Other contributors include Roughage, Esruk, and Pu/Ni/Sh/Me/Nt. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Dc Rox" (Olive Tree Records, PO Box 73026, Washington DC 20009) This compilation, first released in 1987, features Revelation, H.R., i.n.i.c.u, Outrage and other DC bands, tied together by a heavy funk/hardcore sound; the sound that makes bands like the Chili Peppers and 24-7 Spyz go. There's pretty slick production values and lots of blow-yer-wad guitars all over the place. (T/TG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Double Indemnity" (TOTC, PO Box 65, New Britain, CT 06050-0065): A benefit compilation for WRTC, a Hartford college radio station, and so this is basically college music. Standout tracks include some bouncy world beat from 6 Feet Under, the wistful romantic sound of Leigh Gregory, and the perky pop of the Bimbo Shrineheads. There are some noisier tracks as well, notably one from Zy-Wacks. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Earth Rapers and Hell Raisers" ($5 from Jack Kahn c/o Hippycore, PO Box 195, Mesa, AZ 85211): A dual-EP punk package with an extensive lyric and essay booklet, all for the benefit of the local chapter of Earth First! Twelve bands, mostly hardcore, with good performances from Sam I Am, Pissed Happy Children, Conspiracy of Equals and Seein' Red, among others. Each band has space in the booklet to make a statement or print their lyrics, and there's a short section of facts at the back for those too busy to read longer pieces. Energetic stuff. (2EP/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Earwax Syringe" (Slipstream Productions, PO Box 2071, New Market Station, Niagara Falls, NY 14301): A poetry tape with some songs and instrumentals, indexed as Slipstream Audio #4. John Bennett leads-off with his maniacal voice; he fades in and out with some backup jazz, droning and haunting and almost stealing the show. Later, side B, Digman and Hernandez offer "Buy Yourself;" the melody sold me. This is also the 1st time I've heard C. Townsend read her work. (T/pj)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "England & United Kingdom" (Harsh Reality, PO Box 241661, Memphis, TN 38124-1661): Another of HR's great national collections. The A side here is very edgy, panicked, angst-filled, led by the sonic experiments of Factor X and Sponge. The B side seems to quiet down and is a bit more spacey and introspective, with good work from Webcore and Osiris. If HR keeps this up, soon you'll be able to go around the world in 80 tapes. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Everybody's Famous, Vol. 2" (Baby Faze Productions, PO Box 4264, San Francisco, CA 94101): This Warholian series is put out by the folks behind STEPPIGNSTONE magazine, and is similarly devoid of backup explanation. The best tracks this time around are from World Entertainment War, including at least one that's not on the album. The other bands are mostly lackluster, although Show & Tell does hit a good riff in its bloat-rock every once in a while. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Fuck The Poster Police" (STOP-GRO, c/o 125 E. 23rd St. #300, New York, NY 10010): A collection of protest songs aimed at supporting the efforts of those who want to tear down the poster law. John Bartles scores with "The President's Head", proving that Reagan is still fair game, while Tuli Kupferberg lashes out with a poetic assault on "Justice". Reverb Mother Fuckers and Rat At Rat R provide some harder noise assaults. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Hear the ROAR of Mountains" ($$9 from Carl Howard, aT, 209-25 18 Ave., Bayside, NY 11360): A two-tape collection that covers an awesome amount of ground, mostly of the industrial/experimental sort but branching out to spacy rock and even folk. There's an interesting live Skoptzies recording, some fine melodic rhythm stuff from Port Said, and performance by Audio Leter recorded live at ABC No Rio. Other names to watch out for include Amor Fati, Elliott Sharp, Keeler, bene Gesserit, Smersh, If Bwana, and Sleep Chamber. Truly an awesome musical experience. (T2/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "High Plains Rock Volume 1" (Banzai, 3400 Strong, Box 6555, Kansas City, KS 66106). A tape compilation of eight bands from the Kansas City area. The competence level is extremely high, but you've hard most of it before, and if the level of musicianship was no higher the first time around, the music in most cases had more heart. The exceptions are Champion, whose vocalist, guitarist, songwriter, Dennis Dailey, seems to me a serious talent, and Channel Zero— a band close to developing something of its own around the haunting voice of Christy Black. (T/DB)

★★★★★

Various Artists(?), "It's a Cony" (Dinn International, PO Box 86, Gifu Central, 500-91, JAPAN): This one arrived with a batch of PR material in Japanese, which was of little use to me. It's hard to be sure what's going on here, except that it all sounds sort of ambient—some piano music, some found sounds, some traditional instruments, some utter din. A random walk through the sounds of another country, I think. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Je Rumpelsturz Desto Burzelblock" (Sfr. 20 from Schimpfluch c/o Imvluss, PO Box 4804, 8022 Zurich, ZWITZERLAND): Abrasive noise from tape samples, ambient recordings, and electronic manipulations. Sometimes it is as quiet as the ring of a telephone, others it builds to a pitch of clashing machines and claning notes. The antithesis of easy listening. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Jiving in Ljubljana" (A$8 from Zeeeen, 84 McCartin St., Leongatha, Victoria 3953, AUSTRALIA): A collection that goes from the dentist-drill ambience of Effigy's "Suburban Violence" to the acoustic folk of Grant and Mario's "In The Pines" to Hieronymous Bosch and the high-powered "Cutlery Slut". Overall it tends towards experimental and away from stereotypical Australian rock, and while some cuts are real clunkers., there's plenty of good stuff to salvage it. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "A Monastery of Porcupines" ($4 from Dave Schall, PO Box 2143, Stow, OH 44224): A rather noisy comp tape, with bands from all over the place to assault your ears. Participants include Suckdog, Volkswhale, Caroliner, Eeyore Power Toy (they're new to me too, but I liked their cut), Hermanos Guzanos, and more. Everything from hard grungy rock to sheer aural torture is on this tape. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Mommy Mustn't Know" ($4 from Dagger Tapes, PO Box 380152, East Hartford, CT 06138-0152): An all-hardcore compilation tape featuring 17 bands with a couple of songs each. Grimace Abortion leads off with some strong guitar work, and later tracks that stand out come from The Divorced, Sanity Assassins, Organ Donors, and Hellhound. A varied collection that mostly doesn't let up. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Premonitions" ($5 from SoundImage Tapes [checks to M. Franklin], 17 Baylis Road, Slough, SL1 3PH, UK): An international compilation tape of electronic and world beat music that is quite well done, There are some familiar artists to FF readers here, including Todd Fletcher, M. Nomized, and Jack Hurwitz. Other good tracks are "Tides" by Martin Franklin and Richard Clare and The Omega Ensemble's "Piece 10". Overall a very soothing tape. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Press the Play Button and Listen!" ($6 from Christoph Marx, Pipinstr. 4, 5000 Köln 1, WEST GERMANY): An international compilation tape featuring 36 tracks. Some of the bands here include Base Apes, Pogo, Agent 86, Life But How to Live It, Trottel, and a lot more I've never heard of. Comes with a 40-page lyrics and contact booklet. Mostly hardcore but with enough variation among songs to prevent it from getting stale. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Scrap(e)" ($4 from Plutonium Press, PO Box 61564, Phoenix, AZ 85082): A cassette of experimental words and noises. Janet Janet reads a "Fuck" piece for Malok, Bill Shields chimes in with some of his gritty poems, and John Bennett spews forth nightmares. Peter Petrisko Jr., J. Hurwitz, Jake Berry, Mike Miskowski and Floating Concrete Octopus are among the others represented here. For an extra buck you can get it on chrome tape. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Sexual Immorality" (New Flesh Tapes, 2837 NW 66th St., Oklahoma City, OK 73116): A collection of pieces from various acts of noisedom conceptually united under the topic of...well, uh, gee whiz. It's pretty hard to discern whether the main thrust here is an attack on or an exploration of the contradictory consensus morality or sexuality, but I'd guess it's both. Cuts in the areas of repetitive noise cycling, mesmerism, pure tape collage and castrated pop; highlights include Travis B., Kopfschmerztablette, Unfilm, Eel O., and Hands To. All this as well as cover art likely to summon the venomous wrath of any militant feminist. (T/JCM)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Stungus Bacatalog: The Early Years" ($2 from Stungus, PO Box 6963, San Mateo, CA., 94403): This pre-Stungus collection has samples from Exploding Fungus, Pailflesh and other "bands" who mostly expermiment with found sounds, electronic noise, static, etc. There's even some rap thrown in from RMD & Kid DJ. This is suggested listening for the chronically constipated; those low-register noises are guaranteed to loosen even the most uptight bowels. (T/TG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Terminal City Ricochet Soundtrack" ($7.50 from Alternative Tentacles, PO Box 11458, San Francisco, CA 94101): If this soundtrack is anything to judge by, I hope this Canadian black comedy manages to get U.S. distribution. Top tracks include Keith LeBlanc & Henry Rollins with "Message From Our Sponsor", a suspension of civil liberties spoken-word piece, and D.O.A.'s "Concrete Beach". Other performers include Nomeansno, the Beatnigs and the Groovaholics. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "We Are Everywhere" ($2.50 from Chris Caggiano, 1737 Grove St. #1, Ridgewood, NY 11385): This is a lot better than the last tape from Chris I listened to; the recording quality is good and the international cast of bands pumps out a lot of punk, from sludgey politipunk to blazing fast thrash. 28 bands, that many countries—reminds me of some of the classic stuff that BCT put out years ago. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "What Kind of Heaven Do You Want?" (Slumberland, PO Box 2741, College Park, MD 20740): Quirky sounds from three different bands. Velocity Girl seems to have the fuzz without the guitar that normally goes with it; give them a miss. Black Tambourine put together a fine if short pop track. Powderburns do an extensive dark scary sampling number that's probably the best reason for getting a copy of this record, sort of techno-Gothic. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Where It's aT '89" ($8 from Carl Howard, aT, 209-25 18 Ave., Bayside, NY 11360): So you want to know about experimental music but don't know where to start? Here's a good place. There's 18 tracks here of stuff that aT put out last year, including cuts from Alien Planetscapes, Cancerous Growth, NOMUZIC, NKVD, Omnia Opera, Paradox, Das Freie Orchester, and more. Swoopy space music, statical experiments, synthesizer madness, eeries soundscapes, you name it, it's buried here someplace. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "The World's In Shreds Vol. Four" ($3.30 from Blacklist Mailorder, 181 Shipley St., San Francisco, CA 94107): Part of the "Shredder Presents" series of new punk music, this time looking at New Jersey bands. I loved the poseur-bashing "I Am The Sam" from P.E.D. and the more melodic Parasites track, "Never Giving Up On You". Also includes A Priori, Sticks and Stones, Separate Peace, and The Undead. A great bargain. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

VOLCANO SUNS, "Thing of Beauty" (SST, PO Box 1, Lawndale, CA 90260): Wow! Finally. It's that record you always knew the Suns were gearing up for. Rock & roll that hits you with a zillion hooks; noisy at points, poised at the crest of popdom elsewhere, but always energetic and fun. This is a taut rubber band of sound, with the occasional lurch livening up an already great party. 20 songs on 2 albums and this sucker can sprawl out wherever it goddamn well wants! All Hail!(LP/TG)

★★★★★

VOLKSWHALE, "Borschta" ($3 from Dave Schall, PO Box 2143, Stow, OH 44224): Idiosyncratic pop with instrumentation which seems to include bagpipes, found sound, processed vocals and possibly small animals as well as the more normal drums and guitars. There is a rhythm to each of these cuts, but often the similarity to "music" ends there; structured sound is perhaps a better way to think of this sonic experimentation. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

WÆGG, "Hurra!" (Yecch Music Mania, Støver, 8052 Bertnes, NORWAY): Home taping may or may not be killing the music business, but in some cases it makes the music itself pretty ill. This is billed as a "rehearsal room cassette" and the music is basically a Norwegian jam (and yes, you can tell the difference—when they're singing). Riffs are wiped from a lot of rock dinosaurs, and towards the end they finally build to a frenzy of punk abandon. There's a lot of flat spots before that, though. (T/MG)

★★★★★

BILL WARD, "Ward One: Along the Way" (Chameleon Music Group, 3355 W. El Segundo Blvd., Hawthorne, CA 90250): The first solo album from the guy who used to be the drummer for Black Sabbath. It's sort of a concept album, revolving around his own tumble into and recovery from alcoholicism. There are gloomy songs here, as well as hopeful one. Guest vocals come from Ozzy Osbourne and Jack Bruce, as well as Ward himself. A solid FM-radio appearance. (T/MG)

★★★★★

"We Didn't Aks To Come to America" ($8 from Keith Newman, PO Box 426, Mountaindale, NY 12763): An audio collage anchored by bits of radio talk-shows featuring an opinionated and prejudiced host, and some of the black responses to his program. There are also bits of music, from rap to white cracker folk, other media excerpts, and layers of just plain noise. A portrait of racism in America, from several sides. (T/MG)

★★★★★

CARL WEINGARTEN & WALTER WHITNEY, "Primitive Earth" ($12.99 from Multiphase Records, PO Box 15176, St. Louis, MO 63110): Sponic exploration with Weingarten on guitars and Whitney on synthesizers, plus some guests. In 11 cuts it rages from jazz-like improvisation to New Agey sounds to slow, ponderous moving imagery, with a bit of found sound and some lighter numbers in between. Not flashy, but a nice hour of music. In an interesting marketing twist, the bonus track is on the tape, not the CD. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

WHIPPING BOY, "Crow" (CFY Records, PO Box 6271, Stanford, CA 94309): You've got your clear vinyl. You've got your gravel-voiced singer with similarities to a George Thorogood with less class. You've got sexual innuendo on one side and knowing chat about LSD on the other. You've got blues and psychedelia. What you don't have here is a record with anything more than surface flash and a singer puffed up with his own importance. (45/MG)

★★★★★

THE WICKED ONES, "The Devil's In My Pants" (Get Hip Records, PO Box 666, Canonsburg, PA 15317): Why is it that so many otherwise good-sounding garage bands have trouble finding a vocalist who can do more than blurt out words roughly in time with the music? If you can ignore Jeff Martin's vocals, this is pretty good stuff, with a stiff beat and a lot of nasty interlaced guitar work. But the whole just doesn't gel. (45/MG)

★★★★★

"Wilderness" ($11.98 from Nature Recordings, PO box 2749, Friday Harbor, WA 98250): Volume 17 of the Nature Recordings Reference Series of sounds from the great outdoors. Lots of rivers and waterfalls here, along with birds, wolf and elk calls and a bit of rain. The sound quality is good and the tape is soothing to have on, though not exactly exciting. But then, it's not meant to be. (T/MG)

★★★★★

E. WOODALL, "Dirty Water" (E. Music Productions, 7 Maplewood Ave., Huntington Sta., NY 11746): A crisp and clean synthetic music release that was obviously composed and labored over instead of improvised straight to tape. The tape comes with an explanatory booklet which links in such images as laughing businessmen doing the dance of death and the deline of the environment under the pressure of relentless greed. A couple of spoken word pieces creep in as well. A concept album, but not one that feels it has to rub the concept in your face, and with impeccable music to back it up. (T/MG)

★★★★★

WOODPECKER, "Factory Town" (PNYM, PO Box 3854, Jersey City, NJ 07303): The band categorizes themself as "Alternative, underground, Salvation Army/rock and roll halftime band". Guitars, trombone, cello, drums and lots of hillbilly vocals combine in unfashionably long songs to make a sort of modern Sousa on downers sound, marches for the hip clubs around town with dirge-ish lyrics. Very cool, very strange. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

WORMS, "467th Anniversary" ($5 from HTH Productions, PO Box 6903, 83501 Outokumpu, FINLAND): Screaming squalling metallic rock, very tinny in places and rather more full in others. Unfortunately the terrible vocals don't let up, rasping across the eardrums like a rusty saw. No doubt some people will see this as a wonderful attempt to break free of obsolete musical forms, but I think it's just lack of talent. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

SCOTT WYATT, "Collections II" (Audiomedia, PO Box 1792, Eau Claire, WI 54701): Experimental electronic chamber music compositions which manage to be for the most part fairly gentle without becoming boring. Wyatt has written pieces here for a variety of traditional and modern instruments in various settings, which explore the possibilities of, say, a clarinet at some length. Technically very interesting, but not flashy. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

NORMAN YEH, "K7H" (Widemouth Tapes, PO Box 382, Baltimore, MD 21203):Absolutely manic distorted and multiproceesed, speeded up and osterized, classical music—or at least it was vaguely classical before Norman started working it over. The most memorable track is on side A, where a violin speeds up and gets louder until it practically explodes your stereo speakers. Hard to breathe around this stuff. (T/MG)

★★★★★

YESTERDAY'S GRAVY, self-titled (Michael A. DeFeo Jr., 144 Cedar St., Haverhill, MA 01830): This group roves between punk, metal and gothic styles, with a few poppy touches thrown in for good measure. Though there's no real core sound you can identify, they are a tight unit, and everything they do is with vigor. I liked the darker tunes, like "Fade Away", the best, but I have a hunch their future directions will surprise me. (T/MG)

★★★★★

BOB Z., "Packed up and Leaving" (c/o Sarris Bookmarketing, 125 E. 23rd St. #300, New York, NY 10010): This tape of Bob's folky punk opens with the "Samizine Song", capturing on tape bits of the great Scott Cunningham rant from last year's zine art show. Other cool numbers include the ever-popular "Medical Waste" and the "Ighbor's Armpit" sound collage thing. (T/MG)

★★★★★

ZOBEL & THOMASIUS, "Flascher Hase" (Carl Howard, aT, 209-25 18 Ave., Bayside, NY 11360): Somewhere on this recording, Jorg Thomasius plays "Schlagzeug" and "Metallplatten", and it's probably on "Heavy Metal", the half-hour screeching and hammering session that begins this reissue tape of German industrial music. While the rest of the pieces are slightly less abrasive (some rather festive, actually) and feature more subdued and complex electronic/percussive textures, the entire collection maintains the intensity of smashing metal that initiates it. Carefully wrought and seriously aggressive music. (T/KS)

★★★★★

ZZAJ, "In a Conservative World" (Dick Metcalf, HHC, 19th Supcom, PO Box 2879, APO San Francisco, CA 96218): Improvisational words and synthetic music that devolve sometimes into mindless plunking, as in "Random Banjo Nightmares on Straight Street". But if there are clunkers here, there are also intriguing compositions, like "Optimist View" and ":Reptilian Portraits", which explore a sonic space somewhat at random but with enough form to keep them interesting. Dark lyrical content encompassing modern politics livens up some spots. (T/MG)

★★★★★

MUSIC NOTES

•**The ARChive of Contemporary Music** is collecting one copy of every popular music record from 1950 to the present, cataloging them, and making the collection available for research. It's an impressive project, and you can be part of it by sending $25 or more to them at 110 Chambers St., New York, NY 10007, and be a Friend, entitled to their newsletter and other fringe benfits.

•**Bangaway Productions** (1460 Cornell Rd., Atlanta, GA 30306) has a new catalog of their tapes and other goodies available to anyone who sends a 25¢ stamp.

•**CJAM** (University of Windsor, ONT, N9B 3P4, CANADA) is a student-run station that wants more alternative material to play on the air, in their quest to be the "most alternative/eclectic station in existence". They're also hosting this year's National Campus/Community Radio Association meeting, and anyone who gets them 35 copies (with bios) of a record by the end of June will have them distributed to the attendees.

•**Forefront Records** (280 Fairmount Ave., Chatham, NJ 07928) carry a batch of European import and collectible records at reasonable prices. An SASE should get the current pricelist.

•**HTH Productions** (PO Box 63, 83501 Outokumpu, FINLAND) is interested in heading from people who want their records distributed in Finland. They'll send you a catalog of what they already have for a couple of bucks.

•**Kentucky Fried Royalty** (USA Contact: Jennifer McKinnis, 5122 N. Cedros Ave., Sherman Oaks, CA 91403) is a worldwide grassroots tape distribution service. If you're interested in getting your music around all over the place, send an SASE for more info.

•**Korrupted** (14026 Briarwood Dr., Laurel, MD 20708) is a distribution service for punk music and fanzines. Send an SASE for their current catalog and more information.

•**KSJS** (1 Washington Sq., San Jose, CA 95192-0094) has started a weekly punk/hardcore show and is eager to receive records to play.

•**Mix Bookshelf** (6400 Hollis St. #12, Emeryville, CA 94608) is a source for audio and video equipment and books, from improv concepts for jazz guitar to entire CD libraries of sound effects.

•**NEWS FROM JOY BEFORE THE STORM** is a newsletter from the band Joy Before The Storm (no surprises there). I guess you can get a copy of the latest issue for an SASE, since it's only a couple of pages long. Write them care of Benedictine Tapes, W179 N8587 Village Ct. #8, Menomonee Falls, WI 53051.

•**Plunderphonic**, the wonderful experimental sampled and altered CD put out by John Oswald, has been suppressed by legal action. This sucks.

•**Pocatello Vision-12** (812 E. Clark St., Pocatello, ID 83201-5722) programs community access video 12 hours a day and alternative audio the other 12. Being stuck in the middle of nowhere, their access to music is limited, and so they're looking for tapes, records, and CDs to add to their library.

•**Porkopolis** (PO Box 3529, Cincinnati, OH 45201) is still accepting submissions for their next comp tapes, to be released towards the tail end of this year. Or you can send an SASE for their current catalog.

•**Jerry Posner** (PO Box 244, West Stockbridge, MA 01266) will work with you to produce custom affirmation tapes, based on discussions and astrological readings, at his studio in Pittsfiel. The fee for this is $100, or send an SASE for more info.

•**Radio USA** is a punk hardcore pirate station that is starting a European service on shortwave. They're selling ads at prices as low as $2 for a 30-second spot. Send an SASE to them at POI Box 452, Wellsville, NY 14895 for details.

•**Resurrection** is the title of a planned cassette edition of FIELD TRIP magazine, to be made up entirely of Resident covers. Submissions on tape are earnestly being solicited; you can send 'em to Paul Rydeen at PO Box 207, Pt. Lyon, CO 81038-0207.

•**Rice Radio Folio** (PO Box 1892, Houston, TX 77251) is the playlist of radio station KTRU at Rice University.

•**Rounder Records** (PO Box 154, N. Cambridge, MA 02140) is now the national distributor for Folkways, in addition to their own line of alternative music. You can get their main catalog for $2.

•**Something Else** is a radio program on Louisiana State's KLSU radio, featuring independent tape music. Send your material directly to Arlen P. Speights, Something Else, KLSU, B-46 Hodges Hall, LSU, Baton Rouge, LA 70803 to give it the best chance of being played.

•**Spiral Cassettes** (PO Box 17686, Phoenix, AZ 85011) is looking for audio collaborations done through the mail, 30 minutes in length.. Send 'em a stamp for more details.

•**Wheelchair Full of Old Men Records and Tapes** (PO Box 2143, Stow, OH 44224) will send you a catalog for an SASE.

•**WKDI** (544 College Ave., Dekalb, IL 60115) is a college station that is very good about getting playlists out, so they should be a prime target for indie record promo efforts.

•**WRRG** (Room R-101-A, 2000 Fifth Ave., River Grove, IL 60171-1995)sent me a playlist. They're the Triton College station, and their top 35 looks to be about half indies.

The Music Society

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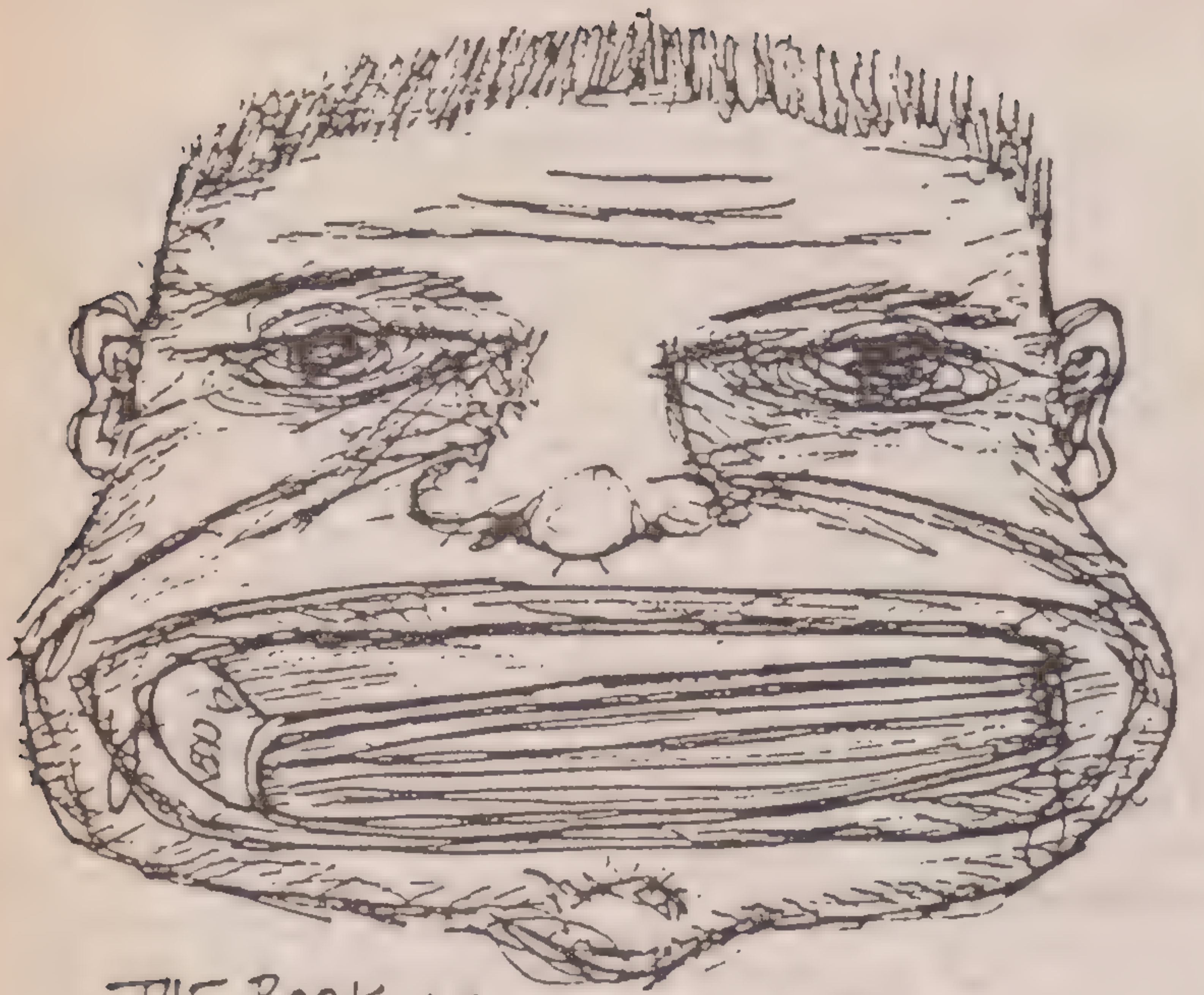


THE BOOK OF THE MOUTH CLUB

Long-time readers have heard this before, but I'm behind on reviewing books again. That's because I do the zines first. Books tend to stay in print longer. Anyhow, if you've sent me a book for review, do not despair, I will get to it. If you want to make sure I got it, phone me.

Meanwhile, there are still a couple of Lonely Planet travel books available to anyone who can write a decent, knowledgeable review: **MADAGASCAR & COMOROS, MALDIVES & ISLANDS OF THE EAST INDIAN OCEAN, MAURITIUS, REUNION & SEYCHELLES,** and **EASTERN EUROPE ON A SHOESTRING** are all up for grabs. Drop me a line if you're the person to review one of these, and tell me why.

Albany-area readers: I may be able to use *local* folks who want to help write reviews, especially if they have special knowledge in fields where I'm an idiot. Give me a call if you want to talk about what might be available. Sorry to those who don't live around here, but this is the sort of thing I need to keep face-to-face tabs on to see how it's working.

★★★★★

David Alexander, **ANGEL OF DEATH** ($3.50 from Dorchester Books, 276 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10001): Another novel of international intrigue from David Alexander, who also has some ties to the small press—though under another name. The style here is sort of Robert Ludlum meets **SOLDIER OF FORTUNE**; there are secret agents running all over the place, lots of corpses, and an array of the most current hardware for the gun-freaks to salivate over. Sure, it's junk reading, but it moves fast—fast enough so you almost don't notice how silly the plot is, with the Bad Guy skipping opportunities to kill the Good Guy because he wants to prolong the game. (265 pp. pb)

★★★★★

Associations of the Light Morning, **WAX STATUES, COTTON CANDY AND THE SECOND COMING** ($9 plus $1.50 p&h from Douglas D. Todd, 9077 Sugar Run Rd. NE, Copper Hill, VA 24079): The Associations of the Light Morning are a group who, impelled by channelings, moved to the country to start a search for the means to bring the Christ Consciousness back into the world. This book, subtitled "An Inner Exploration of the Essenes, the Birth of Christianity and Its Impending Renewal" tells part of the story of their quest, utilizing dreamwork, meditations and bits of the channeled text to trace a spiritual theory about the world.

There are two basic themes in this book, interwoven with short glimpses of a new life being built. The first concerns the Essenes and their importance as a pattern or source for knowledge for this community—which is tied up with a notion of non-linear time, such that the Essenes may still in some sense exist. The second part of the book explores the cycle of the year, through a series of meditations and dreams revolving around the equinoxes, solstices, and cross-quarters.

I found this to be an intriguing work, and more reliable as to the changing of consciousness than many New Age works, simply because of its links to a community. This is not just armchair theorizing but a perspective developed during daily spiritual practice. Where they're going from here I have no idea, but they seem to be on an interesting path. (209 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Jerry B. (ed.), **THE PRAIRIE RAMBLER: IN RETROSPECT** Vol. One ($15 from PO Box 505, Claremont, CA 91711-0505): Attentive readers will know that **THE PRAIRIE RAMBLER** is a small zine of quotations with commentary. Hence it should not be surprising that this is a small book of quotations with commentary. Starting from the first issue, Jerry reprints the words he found worth printing, and says something about their sources, their importance, or just his own reaction to them. As he says, "this is just another book of quotations, etc. However, it is possibly the only book which subjects the reader to all the peeves, prejudices and foibles of the editor." Mostly light humor, with an index, and worth keeping around for a spare moment on a slow day. (157 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Mindy Bingham, **MINOU** , (illustrated by Itoku Maeno), ($12.95 +1.50 s/h from Advocacy Press, PO Box 236, Dept A, Santa Barbara CA 93012): This is another delightful book from the pair that produced *My Way Sally* (reviewed in **FF34**). It is a story of the cat Minou, the "very contented" and pampered pet of Madame Violette, a Parisian artist, and how the cat fails to find a new protector after being cast alone into the streets of Paris. Instead, with the help of a friend, she finds self reliance. Each page is evocative of a story in itself, with the memorable water color paintings by Itoku Maeno. Maeno, who spent a year creating the art, captured a glowing romantic ambience to accompany the Parisian setting. In addition to its social message, the book can serve as a gentle travelogue with a page following the story given over to descriptions of the pictured scenes. After that is a single page of statistics (over 90% of today's girls will work, 50% as sole support of a family) and suggestions for discussions and actions to remove societal barriers and encourage self reliance. (64 pp. hc)(Reviewed by Carolyn MacDonald)

★★★★★

Len Bracken, **FREEPLAY** ($10 from 1142 N. Stuart St., Arlington, VA 22201): There's a growin \g trend in the modern imaginative novel to mimic the rapidfire intercut of information in our media age, collaging together a sort of holographic hyperdimensional text rather than plotting a simple linear story. I think of Moorcock's **CORNELIUS CHRONICLES**, Shea & Wilson's **ILLUMINATUS!** trilogy and Scholz & Harcourt's **PALIMPSESTS** on the professional scale, and the work of such writers as Don Webb, Misha and Mink Mole in the small presses. Well, this book is an unexpectedly delightful addition to the genre (which, in case you have any doubt, is one I appreciate very much). **FREEPLAY** revolves around the activities of the Players, a mysterious transnational group of nearly self-actualized folks who are trying to create a revolution that is simultaneously anarchist and federalist, technological and ecological, fun and serious. The book is a kaleidoscope of scenes and ideas, flipping quickly back and forth from electromagnetic naval propulsion to revolution in Yugoslavia to a beautiful Russian epileptic to designer hallucinogens to Hawaiian surfer lingo to ecstatic sex to defiant suicide to dolphins to artificial intelligence to...well, who knows what. Bracken has put together a wonderful and scary vision of the future (or is it the present?) and the battle between The System and man's own liberatory impulses. It's a work I'm sure I'll come back to many times. (194 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Tom Brosnahan, **TURKEY: A TRAVEL SURVIVAL KIT** (Third Edition)($14.95 from Lonely Planet, Embarcadero West, 112 Linden St., Oakland, CA 94607): Two years ago, I used the second edition of this guide while on my third trip traveling through Turkey with a Kiwi friend. We found the guidebook to be invaluable and, in fact, referred to it as the 'bible'. The answers to all our questions were found inside: whether we needed info on where to stay, what to eat, or what to see. We did however have a few minor problems with it: most importantly it lacked a map index (we were always scrambling to find the right map), information about local festivals for those culturally inclined, a too small glossary of Turkish phrases and pronunciation, and a few places we were interested in seeing which weren't in the guide.

Happily, it's hard to be at all critical of this new edition as all of these minor problems have been taken care of and there is greatly expanded coverage of placed, lodgings, and food. In particular, I was struck with the accuracy of Brosnahan's recommendations of regional dishes (Turkish food is great. Iskender kebabs are wonderful.) Additionally, his archaeological and historical info is extensive and accurate. It seems that he has been everywhere in Turkey and the coverage ranges from the big cities to the small out of the way villages.

In a few instances I disagree with him about particular places. I found Pamukkale (with its limestone waterfalls) to be a place to miss (although it made for beautiful photos) and Olüdeniz (beautiful lagoon and beach) to be a bit too crowded in August. He highly recommends the haman (Turkish bath) and it is as wonderful as he says. But one thing he misses and that I would highly recommend to male travelers is a trip to a Turkish barber where you get a facial massage and shave twice and then after your haircut they singe off excess nose hair, ear hair and sideburns (no, this didn't burn or hurt); this was incredibly relaxing.

Buses in Turkey are comfortable and run on time and Brosnahan recommends them but warns about cigarette smoke. I did all my traveling by bus and this was never a problem although I did meet a few others who had traveled in the farthest eastern part of the country who said it was a problem there.

I did meet a few Aussies who complained that it wasn't sufficiently oriented to the low budget traveler. When it lists places where you can sleep on a hotel roof for $2.00 or have a delicious filling meal for 75¢ I just don't agree. It is equally useful for those wanting to travel in style.

What comes across after having read this new edition from cover to cover is that Brosnahan seems to have a real love of the country and its people. All in all, this guidebook is highly recommended. I just wish that I'd had a guidebook this good on my first trip to Turkey 17 years ago. (615 pp tpb)(Guest review by Jay Dobis)

★★★★★

David Lee Castleman, **I STAMMER IT TO ANGELS** ($4 from 532 Tamalpais Drive, Mill Valley, CA 94941): Other than a couple of linked short stories, this hefty collection is all poetry. The pieces are short, generally less than 30 lines; it's mostly free verse, though an occasional rhyme is not uncommon.

Themes tend toward the philosophical. Abstractions and emotions abound, while the concrete everyday object is an oddity. These lines from "of moon and moon" are representative of Castleman's style: "it would prove hard/to breathe for a purpose/toward a single intention/a whim of gods." Just about anyone could find a few special favorites in such a voluminous compilation. (253pp tpb)(pj)

★★★★★

Carol Clewlow and Robert Storey, **HONG KONG, MACAU, AND CANTON: A TRAVEL SURVIVAL GUIDE** (5th edition)($12.95 from Lonely Planet Publications, Embarcadero West, 112 Linden Street, Oakland, CA 94607): This book, featuring the bustling cities of Hong Kong, Canton and the Portuguese enclave of Macau is typical of the very fine group of travel publication by Lonely Planet. Even though the two authors have traveled Hong Kong, Macau and Canton at different times, the information is very timely. The recent events in Beijing have even been included in this edition. I was in Hong Kong and Macau the first few weeks of January 1990. The U.S. state department had issued a travel advisory for individuals planning on traveling to the Peoples Republic of China, a advisory mentioned in essence in the guide. Throughout the this excellent guide you are treated to insider information of a wide scope. The coverage of this information is broad enough to satisfy the needs of the majority of travelers. One will notice all of the maps in this book are in black and white, this is a distinct advantage. The information in presented in a readable and most importantly comprehensible form. The maps provide the pertinent information and leave out the commercial frills, providing the user with an usable map with concise and most importantly, a map free of confusing labeling. The authors do not dwell on the most touted feature of Hong Kong-shopping. Shopping in Hong Kong seems to be second nature and this information would just add unnecessary text. What the author do provide is a very well written "guide" to buying, covered in only 6 or so pages of definitive, easy to read text. The coverage of Macau seems to be limited to the colonial artifacts remaining along with its history and gambling. The city is a little less "dressed" up than is Hong Kong. Coverage is clear and since there is really less to cover, smaller in scope. The issues of gambling is covered well although the drab conditions of the Macau casinos is touched upon. In all, this guidebook provides a tried and researched formula for "surviving" your travel to these cities with coverage on topics such as history, geography, climate, government, economy, people, religion, festivals, holidays, and language to name a few. The book is indexed but only by city or points of interest. I would like to see the facts and figures indexed as well, although they are covered in the in the table of contents. Indexing of these features would provide instant access to data as needed, such as money conversions tips, bus/MTR (Mass Transit Rail) information, ferry information, the like, without reading thru unnecessary passages. I could be accused of nitpicking on these minor exclusions, but there is always room for improvement, even on well done products. Simply stated, don't leave home without your copy of this guidebook, or should I say "reference". You'll use this guide to your advantage throughout your trip on a daily basis, rather that the usual "tourist guides" that always seem to be left behind after the first day or so. (344 pp. tpb)(Guest Review by Andrew Koran)

FERMENTED LLAMA TESTICLES
KIBBLES 'N' CHUNKS 'N BEANS
BAKIE UPERS
RAISIN TUNA SQUARES
JIM BAKKER BROWNIES
NEW JOBS INSANE STEW
LIQUID CRUD
GORBACHEV GOULASH
1000 POINTERS AND RECIPES GEORGE BUSH BISCUITS
WHEAT THICKS
BEEF IN A BOX
CREEM DREEM WEENIES
WHAMO SPAMO
ULTRA SQUIRT
PEACHES 'N BEANS
ZUCCHINI BEEF BALLS DIPPED IN TUNA OIL
PRUNE GRAVY MIX
BARGAIN BEETS
HIPPY PEANUT BUTTER
THE SOOTHING SOUNDS OF JIM NEIGHBORS FEATURING GOMERS PILES
POPCORN
MEATLOAF POP-UPS
CHEWY COUGH BARS
REAGAN RONI THE I CAN'T REMEMBER TREAT WHELL LETS EAT.
OLLIE NORTH'S CONTRA-COOKIES
TRILL
RAISIN GALORE WITH PRUNES'N MORE
TURTLE SHAPED RICE BALLS
©CHRIS CURTIS 90

★★★★★

Alyce P. Cornyn-Selby, **PROCRASTINATOR'S SUCCESS KIT** ($10.95 from Beynch Press, 1928 SE Ladd Ave., Portland, OR 97214): Are there any of you out there who never procrastinate? I didn't think so. As far as I can tell, we all do it. But Alyce is the first person to point out to me that procrastination can be valuable: "In fact, people are never more creative than when they're sabotaging their own efforts...and often never more *productive* than when they are *procrastinating*."

The trick is to take this productivity and turn it to something more useful than missed deadlines and self-induced guilt, an that's what this book is about. Alyce discusses what procrastination is and how to get around it, starting off with her "Inner Theatre" technique, sort of neuro-linguistic programming adapted to deal with the multiple personas lurking inside us all. She then catalogs "The Eight Procrastinating Styles", including The Crazymaking Procrastinros, The Feeling Good Procrastinator and (my favorite) The Action Junkie Procrastinator. For each style, she discusses what's wrong and how to change it, offering slogans, affirmations and exercises.

I'm finding some of this useful...I may not be procrastinating any less since reading this book, but at least I'm feeling better about it. Worth getting around to. (196 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

THE CRAMPS, AUTOMNE 89 ($7.50 from Black Mony, BP 576, 75027 Paris Cedex 01, FRANCE): This story of the Cramps, a U.S. rock band, is the most complete history I have ever seen of a band I've never heard of. At 114 pages long and full of essays and concert photographs and even a discography, this book has most of the information a diehard fan would like to have, and only a diehard fan would find much use for it despite its professional layout and printing. Of some interest is the facsimile of the band's letter requesting that their fan club be dissolved, and this letter represents most of the non-French language in the production. (114 pp. tpb)(Guest review by Geof Huth)

★★★★★

Beverly Daurio, **JUSTICE** ($7.95 from Moonstone Press, Box 96, Goderich, ONT, N7A 3Y5, CANADA): A collection of "fictions & prose poems" which seem to interconnect at a lot of points even though they don't quite form a single plot or story. Daurio writes of people in love and people in life, many of them screwed up by virtue of living in a screwed up society. None of this is packaged into neat little bits; rather, characters interact somewhat mysteriously against small town and big city backgrounds, having parts of their lives drawn out for examination. Many of them seem to be gradually coming unstuck from reality, retreating into better worlds—or perhaps a veil is just drawing shut between reader and character. Works worth working at. (77 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Maxim Décharné, **BEAT YOUR RELATIVES TO A BLOODY PULP** and **THE SHEEP OF THINGS TO COME** (Respectively £5.60 and £3.30 from Malice Aforethought Press, 328 Brettenham Rd., London E17, UK): Malice Aforethought is the home of Frank Key, whose strange stories have won positive reviews from me in previous issues. Well, Décharné is, if anything, an even more bizarre and eccentric writer. Almost needless to say, this means that I found these works enjoyable as well.

BEAT YOUR RELATIVES TO A BLOODY PULP opens with a biography of the author, then proceeds right into the roaring medieval story of hunts and confusion that is also the title of the book. As if this wasn't enough, it closes with "The Charge of the Lute Brigade", introducing a band of unlikely brigands into the same story and continuing to show the fates of the nobles involved. Both of these are set in a horrible pseudo-script face in which there is absolutely nothing to distinguish an "F" from an "S", leading to a certain amount of confusion when reading. Décharneé's self-referential schticks and horrible puns do nothing to ease this confusion. Curious woodcuts illustrate this series.

In between there are such fine stories as "My Night With the Grim Reaper", the psychological black comedy "Hello Jung Lovers, Wherever You Are" and the better left unread "The Importance of Being Harnessed".

THE SHEEP OF THINGS TO COME is a separately bound story, the author's latest, which continues the medieval series begun in the first book. Chaucer's pilgrims wander through the story here, punning their way into history, and looking desperately for a way out. I loved every minute of it and shall certainly be on the lookout for the promised sequel, **THE LITTLE SHEEP OF HORRORS**. And I'll never look at a tree the same way again. (146 pp. tpb & A5-32)

★★★★★

Mary Wallitt De Young (ed.), **DRUMMER BOY: HENRY HILTON WOOD AND THE CIVIL WAR** ($13.50 from De Young Press, PO Box 7252, Spencer, IA 51301-7252): Perhaps the core of this look at the civil war is the autobiography of Wood, a drummer for a Union volunteer regiment during the Civil War. But it's a pretty small core; the bulk of the book is made up of reprints from other sources: Lincoln's official correspondence, a regimental history, newspaper accounts, songbooks, and what appear to be other books—although, since nothing is credited, it is impossible to be sure. The overall effect is of one small voice buffeted and lost in the vastness of the war. There are interesting things here for the history buff to browse through, but I found the lack of any real scholarly framework to be rather annoying. (362 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

THE DIRECTORY OF EXPERTS, AUTHORITIES & SPOKESPERSONS, 7th Edition (Contact Broadcast Interview Source, 2233 Wisconsin Ave. NW #406, Washington, DC 20007): A fat guide to people who are ready and able to be interviewed by the news media. Several previous editions have been reviewed in **FF** (most recently in #32), so I'll keep this short. The most notable change is the expansion of the book; it's about 50% larger than the previous edition. What this means is that there are even more experts waiting to be tapped, from The U.S. Export Council for Renewable Energy to the Ethics and Public Policy Center to The Creativity Factory Inc. The book is available on a controlled-circulation basis to bona fide news organizations. If you can afford the couple of hundred dollars fee, and want to hit the talkshow circuit, drop them a line for listing forms. (735 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Don and Bea Donohugh, **KAUA'I: A PARADISE GUIDE** ($11.95 from Paradise Publications, 8110 SW Wareham Cir., Portland, OR 97223): One of the biggest problems with taking a vacation is getting ripped off. Paying too much for a hotel or a lousy, overpriced meal at a restaurant can put a damper on your trip. I've been fleeced this way more times than I care to admit. Hawaii, which practically lives on tourists, can be especially bad.

To try to avoid this problem, you can buy a travel book. Unfortunately, you can get ripped off here, too. The book may be out of date, or list only hotels and activities that require a "gold card" to afford. I don't know about you, but these are out of my price range. I am happy to report that **KAUA'I: A PARADISE GUIDE** is not one of these books. This book, written by a couple who actually live on Kaua'i, is an excellent guide to this island. It is full of personal advice for the average traveler.

The first chapter of the book starts with a very nice history of the island, followed by a section on the Hawaiian language. This chapter is full of practical information, too. it gives advice on the best supermarkets (eating out for every meal is expensive and fattening), self-serve laundries (why pay $4 or more to have a shirt cleaned?), the weather (should I take a sweater or not?), radio and

DRUMMER BOY
by Mary Wallitt De Young

A new book about the adventures of one of Mrs. De Young's ancestors, Henry Wood, who fought in the Civil War as a member of the Union's 121st New York Volunteer Regiment, from 1862 to 1865, Antietam to Richmond.

The book includes Wood's own autobiographical narrative as well as a host of supporting material, from Army songs to newspaper accounts.

This 362-page softbound book is available directly from DeYoung Press for $13.50 postpaid.

De Young Press
PO Box 7252
Spencer, IA 51301-7252

TV stations (you don't want to miss the football game, do you?) and traveling with kids (if you must take them).

The next two chapters give advice on where to stay and where to eat. In addition to the usual hotel listings, the authors suggest alternatives like camping and bed and breakfasts. Included are names and addresses of organizations to contact to get more information, The authors pull no punches in the restaurant chapter. If a restaurant is bad, they tell you about it. Here's an example:

"The menu looks good, even creative, but the creativity stops there. The food is just awful."

The last two chapters, "What to See" and "What to Do" are also excellent. "What to See" takes you on a guided tour of the island, describing the route and points of interest along the way. "What to Do" lists various activities and the best places to do them. Included are bicycling and birdwatching, as well as the more usual tourist activities like helicopter rides and shopping.

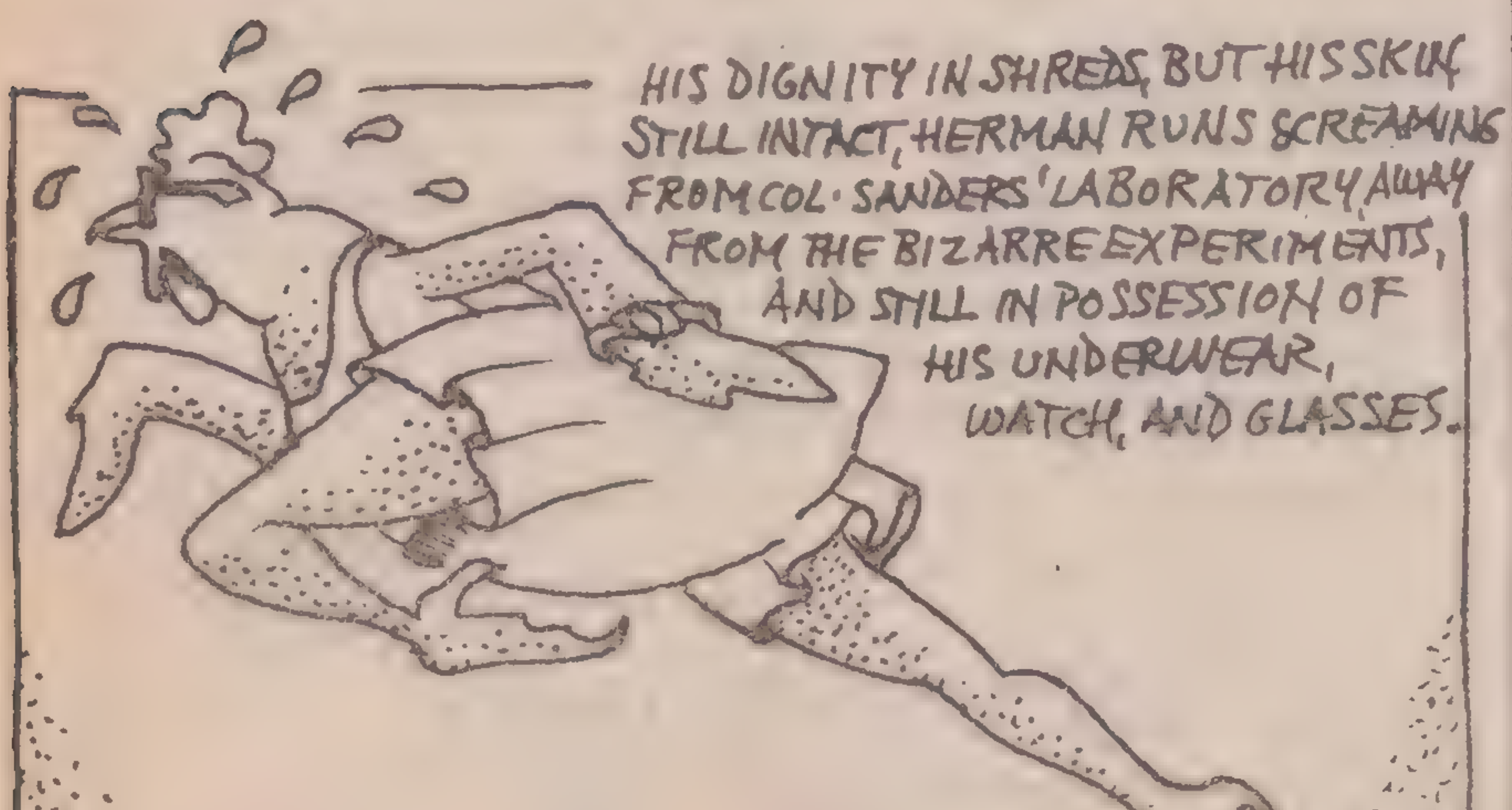
Hawaii is incredibly beautiful, and is a very nice place for a vacation. A good travel guide will help you enjoy your vacation, and save you money. If you're going to Kaua'i, let me recommend this book to you. (Guest review by Dan Romanchik)

★★★★★

Bernard J. Ficarra, D, KSG, **ABORTION ANALYZED** ($14.95 from Health Educator Publications, 1580 Kirktown Rd., Old Town, ME 04468): Dr. Ficarra serves as president of the Catholic Academy of Sciences—hence, as one might guess, his stance on abortion is predetermined by his faith: it is wrong, period, end of statement. But there's a lot more to this book than the examination of the Church's teachings on the subject (which occupies one chapter). He also looks at the legislative and judicial history of abortion in the United States, at the medical evidence for the personhood of the fetus, and at alternatives to abortion which exist. He spends a chapter rebutting common arguments of the pro-choice forces and another exploring the concept of human rights and legal cases suggesting that at least some unborn people have at least some rights.

Of course, all this study is not going to convince anyone who differs on basic principles. Two of the cornerstones of Dr. Ficarra's case are postulates which I personally do not agree with, and I do not find his proof by assertion to be convincing. One of these is the infallibility of the Pope; the other is the equation of the fertilized egg as a new life with the fertilized egg as a new person, with all the rights of any other person. However, that does not make reading the book a useless exercise. Dr. Ficarra is a well-educated, deeply committed and skilled defender of his position. (Perhaps, in fact, he is too well-educated; sentences like "An adiaphorous, non-prejudicial observation can find no contradiction or incompatibility with an alliance between bioethics and theophany" are common, and make parts of this book tough reading indeed). If pro-choice people want to seriously debate with those opposed to abortion, they have to be prepared to confront the Ficarras of the world as well as the narrow-minded bigots of Operation Rescue. (226 pp. tpb)

★★★★★


HIS DIGNITY IN SHREDS, BUT HIS SKIN STILL INTACT, HERMAN RUNS SCREAMING FROM COL. SANDERS' LABORATORY, AWAY FROM THE BIZARRE EXPERIMENTS, AND STILL IN POSSESSION OF HIS UNDERWEAR, WATCH, AND GLASSES.
W. HENDERSON

HANUMAN BOOKS

These pocket-sized books are put out by Raymond Foye editions. They're made in India, and feature hand-sewn bindings and colored dust jackets with the title stamped in gold, although the whole book is only about two inches by four. They're only sold in sets of six different books, so if one of these interests you, send a buck for their catalog to PO Box 1070, Old Chelsea Sta., Mew York, NY 10013-0905. Or you can take a chance, send $25 for a set of six, and see what the other five besides the one you specify are.

Rene Guenon, **ORIENTAL METAPHYSICS:** A basic introduction to Hindu and other eastern metaphysical systems, first published in the 1950's. Guenon sees the eastern traditions in general as following one stream of thought, and it's the broad course of this stream he is interested in tracking rather than the minute meanders of each tributary. The book also lays out the basic differences between this sort of oriental metaphysics and the better-known (to Westerners, that is) ideas of the ancient Greeks. (88pp.)

Eileen Myles, 1969: A tale of the end of the sixties by someone who was just the right age to appreciate it: fresh out of high school. Eileen lived in a group house, learned about drugs and sex, and hitchhiked from Boston to Woodstock for the great event. More a string of incidents than a story, this collage gives us another view of a fateful era. (64pp.)

★★★★★

Hideshii Hino, **PANORAMA OF HELL** ($11.45 from Blast Books, PO Box 51, Cooper Sta., New York, NY 10276): A *manga* graphics novel translated into English, but retaining the original pagination so that it is read back to front, right to left. Hino tells a bleak story here, starting with a painter who seems a bit gross in his fascination with blood. One by one this artist—whose life matches Hino's in all the important details—explains his own paintings, of gore and alienation, of death and hate. Gradually he builds up to revealing his own nuclear-influenced past, and the images get even scarier, tugging at the roots of modern fears. The ending is a tour de force, drawing in the reader to the artist's ultimate nightmare. At this point he seems quite, quite mad...and yet, there's enough doubt of this to leave a very nasty mental taste behind. (200 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Rev. Jason Alan Hoelscher the First, **THE TAO OF BISCUITISM** ($5 from Jason Hoelscher, 7630 Alicia, St. Louis, MO 63142): A collection of nearly all the writings to date from the Church of Arglebargle, a new faith which believes (among other things) that God is a sort of vast pandimensional biscuit. This combines with His messenger, the Nuclear Platypus, to make for a very strange religion. Everything from theology to cosmology to practice is covered here, in a manner reminiscent of Discordian or SubGenial materials (both get their due homage paid). Some is funny, some is puzzling (does the universe really not exist?) and some might even be genuinely enlightening for the right readers. This is a bargain price, and if you've been looking for a strange faith that discusses the artificial insemination of rutabagas all your life, look no further. (122 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Georgine Margareta Witta Kiessling Smith Jensen, **NOTES FROM A DANISH DIARY** ($200 from Witta Jensen, Sct. Hans Gade 20, DK-4000 Roskilde, DENMARK): Witta draws a watercolor postcard each day, with something that happened each day. Her style is rather impressionistic but still it's easy to tell what the impressions are of. This is a catalog to some 150 postcards she has created from these images, and it's hideously expensive because of the costs involved in a short-run book with color on almost every page. However, the cards themselves are quite affordable, 4 cards for $5. You could send for a set blind or write to enquire about possibly borrowing this catalog. (HL-150)

★★★★★

Ben Klassen, P.M., **THE WHITE MAN'S BIBLE** ($6 from COTCO, PO Box 1445, Hillsboro, OR 97123): "COTCO" is "Church of the Creator", the white racial naturalist religion founded by Ben Klassen (The P.M. stands for "Pontifex Maximus, his self-appointed title). This book lays out the basic beliefs and programme of one of the leading white racist groups in the country today. As you might expect, it's mostly home-grown fascism, an intellectual heir to Hitler and Goebbels. But there are other things mixed in as well.

It's a curious mix. Along with the expected fuming about how the blacks, guided by the Jews, are destroying the white race, Klassen displays his own idiosyncratic views on a number of subjects, notably health. I suppose his diatribe here was provoked by the number of Jews in the medical field, but whatever the reason, he denies that drugs can ever be useful for curing diseases. Instead, he recommends fasting and a fruititarian diet. He also has a lot of bad things to say about Christianity and any other religion that believes in "spooks" instead of the laws of nature, which he fancies he has discovered.

The scary thing is that there are people who believe this stuff about the need to organize the white race, exterminate the Jews, and send the blacks back to Africa. Klassen has pitched his message to the common man, working on emotions under the guise of logic, and from other sources I know he has had some success. It's probably futile to try to respond to his arguments rationally. So how to respond to this stuff? Not, probably, by buying it, unless you are in a position to hoist him on his own petard. Instead, this is probably a book to avoid buying. It will only encourage them. (453 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Dr. Jeffrey Lant, **HOW TO MAKE A WHOLE LOT MORE THAN $1,000,000 WRITING, COMMISSIONING, PUBLISHING AND SELLING "HOW-TO" INFORMATION"** ($38.50 from Jeffrey Lant Associates, Inc., 50 Follen St. #507, Cambridge, MA 02138): Yes, Jeffrey Lant has written another book on marketing—and while there is some overlap here with his other books (notably **CASH COPY**) there is a very specific focus. If you organize your life according to this book *and* you have something useful and important to teach people, you may well fulfill the promise made in the title. To do so, you'll probably have to change the way you do business and become more focused. Certainly I'm not driven enough to follow Jeffrey's ideas, and I suspect most writers aren't either. (However, I freely admit that I have used his books many times in developing my own marketing plans; I just pick and choose what I need).

The premise behind all this is that you have what it takes to write a how-to book, a useful tool that will help people realize some benefit in their lives. Starting with this, and drawing on his own experience in becoming an "info-millionaire", Jeffrey tells you what you have to do besides write. The book starts out by explaining how to create the right product, and how to put it together—whether it be a book, a tape, or something else. He then explains the usefulness of a line of products and provides concise advice on booklet and book production. (I'll probably draw on this section when I get around to revising **HOW TO PUBLISH A FANZINE**). A chapter on computer use is fairly sketchy (though he does recommend that you get experts to teach you what you need to know), and one on getting other people to write books for you is far enough from my own orbit that I have trouble judging it. The tail end of the book is devoted mostly to marketing—with a final chapter on financial management, to tell you what to do to protect that million bucks, a neat and unique touch.

And of course it all concludes with a catalog of Jeffrey's other books and reports, since he practices what he preaches. If you're at all interested in marketing and related fields, you ought to get on his free catalog mailing list, which you can do just by writing. Who knows—you might some day decide to take the plunge and become an entrepreneur. (552 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Philip Mathew & Ajit Muricken, **RELIGION, IDEOLOGY AND COUNTER-CULTURE: ESSAYS IN HONOUR OF S. KAPPEN** ($15 from Horizon Books, 20 II Cross, CSI Compound, Mission Road, Bangalore 560 027, INDIA): Sebastian Kappen was trained as a Jesuit, and did his doctoral work on the impact of Karl Marx on religion. Then he brought both Marx and Christ with him back to India, and has since been working to integrate what he sees as the worthwhile portions of each into thought in his homeland. This book is a festschrift, exploring and in some cases integrating his ideas, a step towards a theology of liberation adapted to local economic conditions. It's the sort of academic text that only a few people in this country will be interested in, but some of them may be reading this, so I thought it was worth a mention, since the publisher did send me a copy. (228 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Mink Mole & Dr. Adder, **ALLIGATOR ALLEY** (£13.95 for trade edition or £45 for special edition from Morrigan Publications, 26 St. Paul's Drive, Scotforth, Lancaster, LA1 4SR, UK): With tons of illustrations by Ferret, this wild book is something new on the action/adventure/science fiction scene. It starts off with Mink Mole—a "High Grade" genetic crossbreed, part mink, part mole, part man and all evil—and his buddy Coyote and employer The Operative cruising down the notorious Alligator Alley in Florida. Violence erupts quickly (a billboard explodes on the second page of the story proper, and that's just the beginning) and soon one seems to be in the middle of a crazed, Hunter Thompson gonzo adventure story with deaths and drugs on all sides. As this goes on the unwary reader may be deceived (as I was) into thinking that the book is all incident and no plot, some sort of twisted paean to the violence inherent in the American character. But no, there's much more to it than that...

Gradually it becomes clear that Mole (the narrator of most of the book, with the exception of the sections written from the viewpoint of the perhaps more twisted Dr. Adder) is in fact involved in a shadowy world of intelligence operatives and secret experiments, and that the deaths and havoc which follow him about are more than sheer incident. Upon his reconnection with Coyote late in the book, all starts to become clear, and the action shifts back and forth from past to present, from the real world to the collective unconscious of the Genetics, and even, most terrifyingly, from the book to the reader himself. Yes, it's true, this novel (if that is the term, and I doubt it, for it's far too wimpy a term) does a pretty good job of leaping off the printed page and into the real world. I read the last few pages while under the influence of some strange elixir, and even now I'd swear I can hear a Buick LeSabre off in the distance, drawing closer with its menacing driver and his shoot first and ask questions later attitude. Seldom has a work so disquieting, so different, and so jut plain good appeared from the specialty press. If you care about what's happening on the forefront of imaginative literature, or you just dig Ferret's illustrations, you have to get this.

The trade edition is a fine hardbound book (though some illustrations are out of place); the special edition also includes Ferret's stunning Alligator Alley t-shirt and a soundtrack with works by Boss Hoss/Circus Lupus and Michael Chocholak. (300 pp. hc)

★★★★★

Judith W. Monroe, **WIDDERSHINS** ($9.95 plus $1.50 p&h from Crones' Own Press, 310 Driver St., Durham, NC 27703): A lovely first novel which successfully weaves together feminism, modern neopaganism, and concerns over the rush to develop unspoiled land

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in Maine. **WIDDERSHINS** tells the story of the coming together of a group of women who are interested in becoming witches on a remote Maine island. The island is certainly in need of some help, since the rapacious land developer (who, arguably, is drawn too unsympathetically here) is about to start bringing in rich folks, running up taxes and destroying the community's life. Fortunately for the women, one of their number is already a witch, and she guides them into being able to make a difference.

Monroe does not ignore the psychic side of witchcraft, but she also brings a levelheadedness to the whole idea of spellcasting. The women of **WIDDERSHINS** find a synergy in their group and a spontaneity which manages to do the right thing to bring their goals nearer. The description of their working together comes as a nice lesson in group dynamics. Along with the struggle between the coven-in-formation and the developer comes a humorous sub-plot in the form of a slightly befuddled Catholic priest who finds out about the solstice gathering and determines to perform an exorcism.

A cheerful read, and one which leaves open the possibility of more stories of Widdershins—which I am certainly looking forward to. (227 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Ian Murray, **MEDIA ARTS GUIDE** (Contact Ian Murray, 51 Macdonell Ave., Toronto, ONT, M6R 2A3, CANADA): This is a looseleaf printout from a Mac-based computer listing being created for artists across Ontario, with the assistance of the Ontario Arts Council. Detailed information is given on all manner of organizations: the Canadian Film and Television Association, the Poetry & Prose Video Project, the League of Canadian Poets, Telefilm Canada, and Art Gallery of St. Thomas-Elgin, just to pick a few at random. It's all organized through the extensive use of icons, with everything from the number of folks employed to workshops offered to FAX numbers provided. Looks like a very worthwhile project, and one that will be even more useful once it goes on-line this year. Now—why isn't the same thing happening in every province and state across the continent? (S-177t)

★★★★★

A NO RECORD DEAL ($6 from Pressure Drop Press, PO Box 460754, San Francisco, CA 94146): I had the devil of a time deciding where to review this; in format it resembles a record album, except that there is no record inside. Instead, you find a couple of posters, some other inserts, and a radical booklet. This is an exercise in commercial ju-jitsu, using the advertising system against itself, manipulating media images to discuss the manipulation of media images. Boycotts, kneejerking, and creative re-advertising are all covered here, in an artful package. No doubt some people re going to be disappointed when they buy this and find no vinyl inside, but it will serve them right for not reading he back cover copy closely enough. (various formats)

★★★★★

Novalis, **POLLEN AND FRAGMENTS** ($12.95 & $1.50 postage from Phanes Press, 252 State St. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503): "Novalis" was the pen name of Friedrich von Hardenberg, a German poet and philosopher who lived in the latter part of the eighteenth century. He died young of tuberculosis, but before doing so, he left a great many aphorisms and notes for an encyclopedia of universal knowledge. This collection has all the aphorisms as well as selected poems by von Hardenberg.

The basic orientation here is gnostic, Hermetic and romantic. Novalis searches for meaning amidst a universe being drained of it by an emerging rationalism, and finds enough to satisfy himself, linking the macrocosm and the microcosm in many ways (the image of the sun and planets, for example, is replicated in the arrangement of the state and the function of the human body). Some of these fragments are little more than notes to himself as to what needs to be covered. Others, though, are ready food for contemplation, and the best seem almost *koan*-like in their simplicity and depth: "We are waking up when we dream that we are dreaming" is one of my favorites. A book worth looking into for anyone fascinated by mystic thought and whole systems theory. (170 pp. tpb)

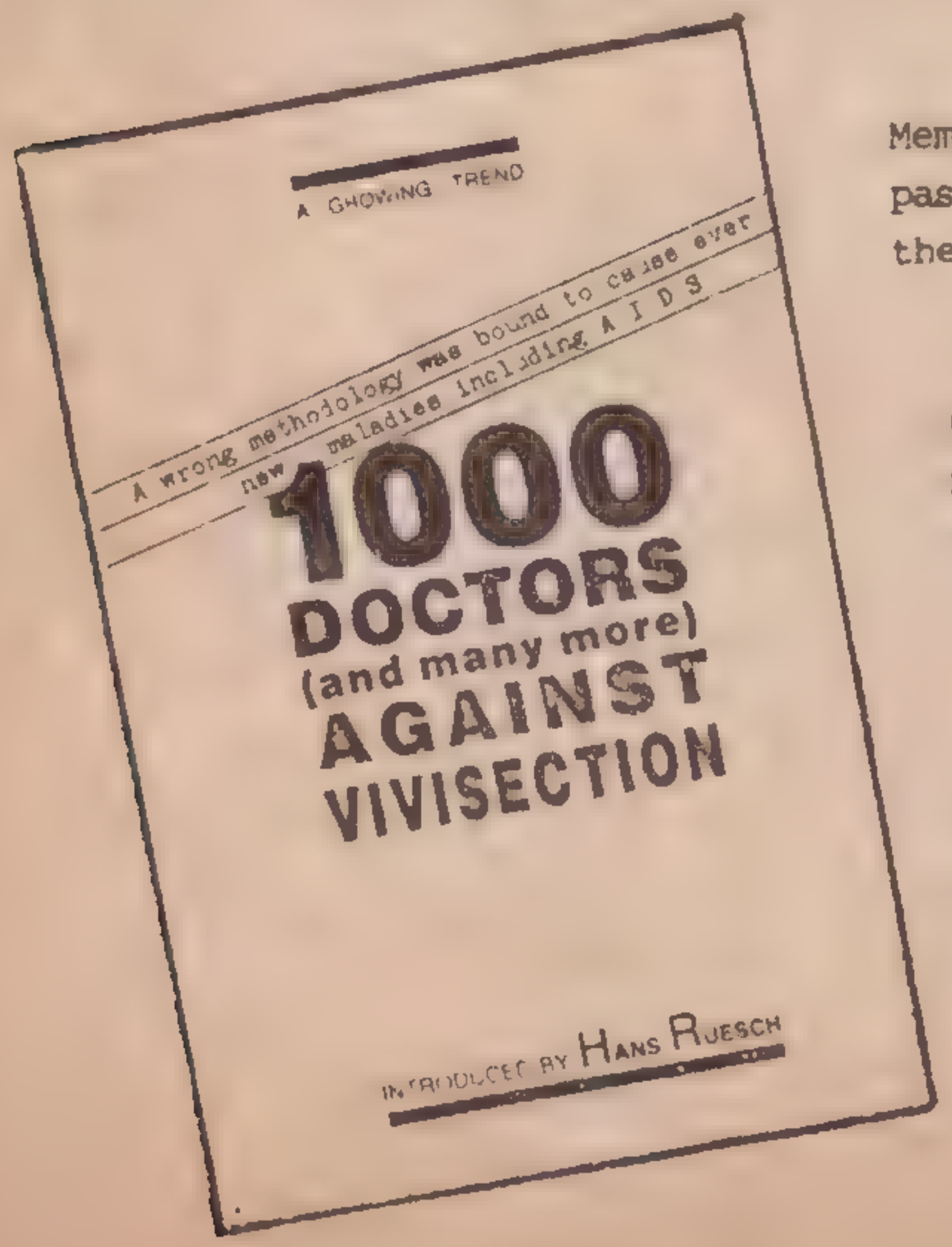
★★★★★

E.E. Rehmus, **THE MAGICIAN'S DICTIONARY: AN APOCALYPTIC CYCLOPAEDIA OF ADVANCED MAGIC(K)AL ARTS AND ALTERNATE MEANINGS** ($12.95& $1.50 shipping from Feral House, PO Box 861893, Los Angeles, CA 90086-1893): The author makes no secret of the leanings which affect his definitions: he isunapologetically hostile to Christianity (see, for example, the entry on "Anti-Christian Strategies") and Islam, and explicitly apocalyptic; the introduction casually mentions that the world only has ten years left—though what this means is another story altogether. So while some of this is the expected utilitarian definitions (from the qabalistic meaning of "Hod", explained in three lines, to the lengthy—and definitely worth reading—comparative look at the word "Magic(k)"), other parts are not so straighforward.

At the bottom this book is as much a work of art (and remember, magic itself is an art) as much as a work of research. Rehmus uses his definitions to put forth his own often iconoclastic views on such matters as the origin of AIDS, the status of AI research, the ethics of suicide and the nature of time. He also seems to be well tied-in to the current wave of neophilic thinking; authorities cited include Hakim Bey, Mickey Mouse, L. Ron Hubbard, Wilhelm Reich, H.P. Lovecraft, Alfred Jarry, and Philip K. Dick.

Naturally, a book like this can't get by without their being a few nits to pick. By daring to put speculations and matters of faith in print as hard facts, Rehmus invited rebuttals. Here's a few matters where I felt he was off the track: a rather fabulous statement of Bell's Theorem and a similarly colorful explanation of the difference between "emic" and "etic" (the serious student of the latter should consult a good anthropology text rather than Robert Anton Wilson), the curious misinformation (or disinformation?) on the Discordian Society, and the acceptance (or feigned acceptance) of the possible existence of **THE NECRONOMICON**. The book could also use an index in addition to the supplied bibliography to make it easier to pull together, for example, the scattered references to Jack Parsons outside of the main entry on him.

The experienced reader, of course, will consult this as a reference and compare it to his own experience before accepting anything. It's the casual reader who needs to watch out, and remember the long trickster tradition in magickal teachings. There are some legs to be pulled here, as well as a useful reference work. (301 pp. tpb)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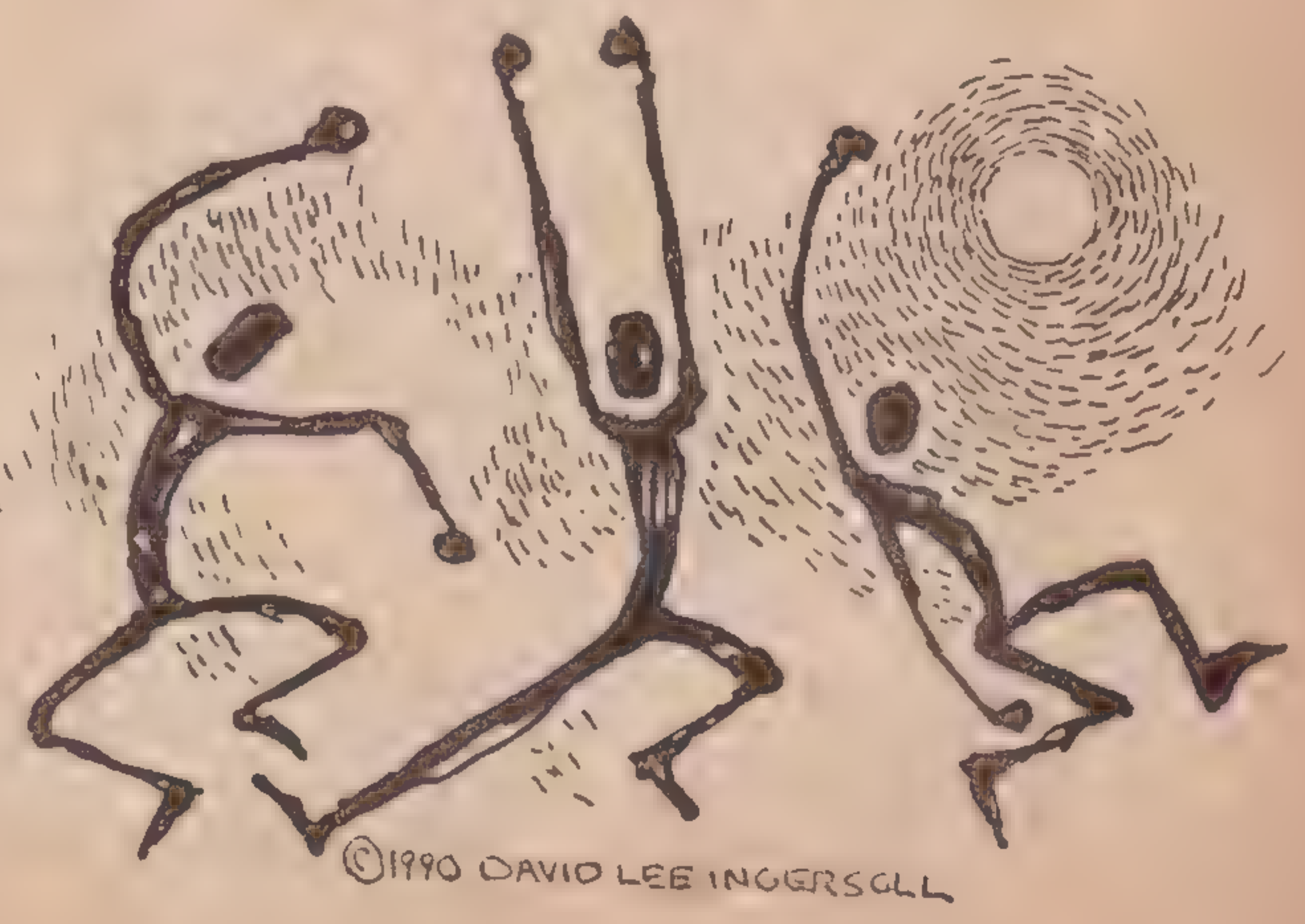


★★★★★

Hans Reusch (ed.), **1000 DOCTORS (AND MANY MORE) AGAINST VIVISECTION** (Civis, PO Box 26, Swain, NY 14884): This book opens with a short exposition of Reusch's ideas regarding animal research: that it is a senseless fraud perpetuated by those who profit from it. But then Reusch turns the podium over to others, a thousand or more of them, all with medical training, who feel the same way. Vivisection is condemned over and over again as being an inappropriate and dangerous way to learn medicine, and the reason why we haven't made a lot of progress in curing disease lately. If you need some authorities to defend your ideas about the senselessness of animal research, this is the book for you. (280 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Donald Rooum, **WILDCAT STRIKES AGAIN** ($5 from A Distribution, 396 Seventh St. #2, Jersey City, NJ 07302): Wildcat is a slightly bedraggled and patched pussycat in a black sweater who happens to be an anarchist. She inhabits a cartoon world filled with other anarchists of various persuasions, from longwinded to egomaniacal, and assorted government lackeys and minions. In these single-page strips, Rooum (through Wildcat) explores some of the basics of anarchy, as well as poking fun at both the movement and the government. His style is uniquely classy, with careful lettering making even the thrown bricks look like cocktail-party conversation, and the barbs are dead-on, especially the ones directed at anarchist bickering. A fun book for those left of center. (48pp tpb)

★★★★★

Marilyn & Tom Ross, **MARKETING YOUR BOOKS** ($9.95 & $2 s&h from Communication Creativity, PO Box 909, Buena Vista, CO 81211): Subtitled "A Collection of Profit-Making Ideas for Authors & Publishers", this on is almost too staid in its approach; finding the notion of a guide to cathouses to be titillating, almost dirty. I mention this not because it is particularly important in terms of the purpose of this book, but because it hints that this is aimed at a somewhat more stuffy crowd than my readers. But don't skip to the next review; style or not, this is a useful book.

MARKETING YOUR BOOKS is a basic book for authors who want to help out with selling their own book—and the Rosses make a compelling case that those of us in the small press have to sell out own books,since nobody else will. It's quick and its basic, and it depends on a certain amount of guts; they don't talk you into doing radio publicity,they just tell you that you should. Among the other topics covered are the importance of brochure design, the possibilities for better sales by picking the right topic in the first place, and selling to book clubs.

Because of its focus—exclusively on books, mostly on small press books—this is going to be a useful book for many of the FF readers who publish books. But to some extent its focus makes it superficial. Once you've gone over the ideas here, you'll want to pursue some of them in more depth. For topics such as electronic media and seminar sales, you'd be better off with some of Jeffrey Lant's books, such as **THE UNABASHED SELF-PROMOTER'S GUIDE**. But start with **MARKETING YOUR BOOKS**, and branch out from there. (129 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

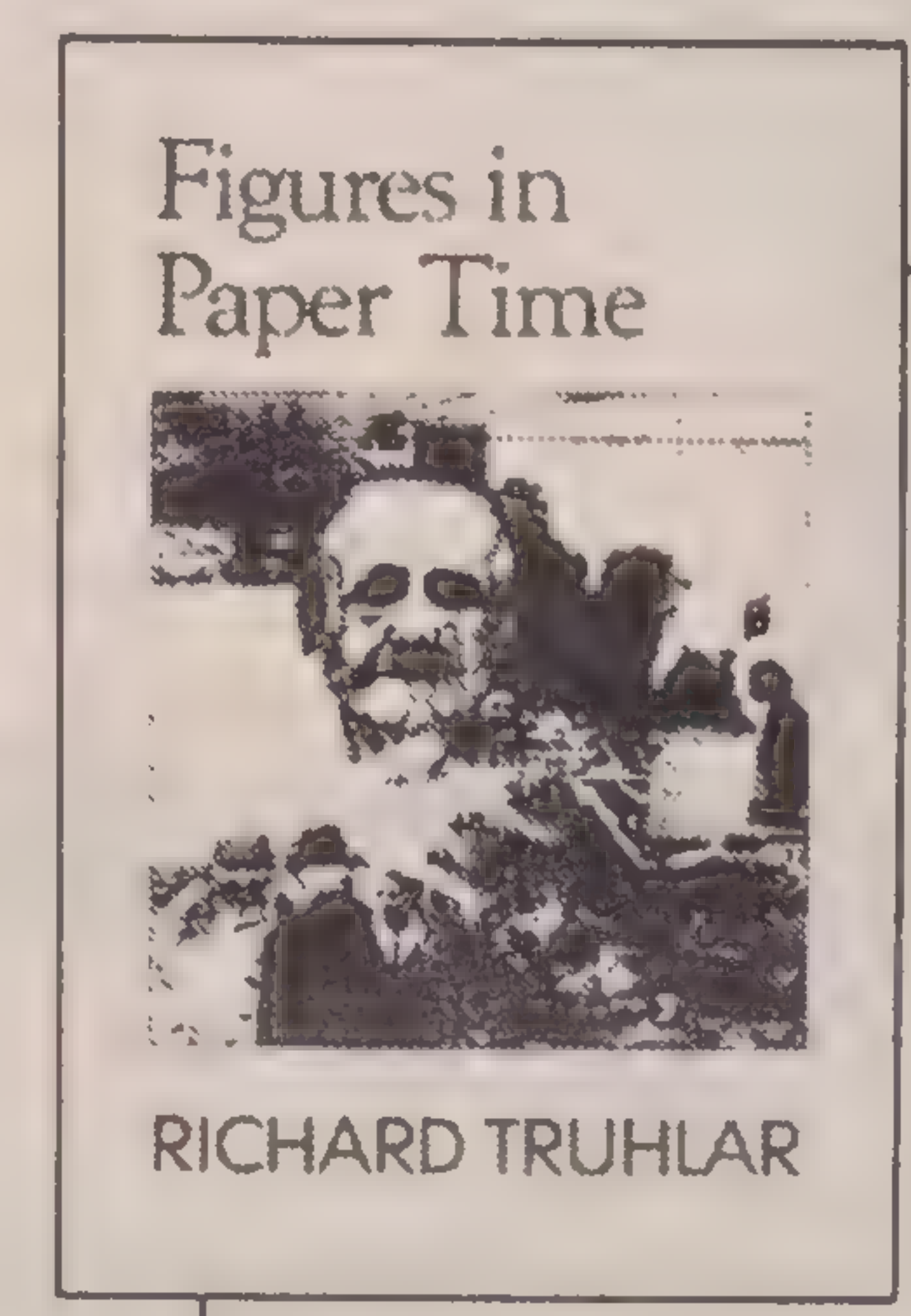
Rudy Rucker, Peter Lamborn Wilson and Robert Anton Wilson (eds.), **SEMIOTEXT[E] SF** ($18/3 issues from 522 Philosophy Hall, New York, NY 10027): This fat trade paperback is #14 of **SEMIOTEXT[E]** magazine, in this incarnation an anthology of stories from some of the edges of the science fiction universe. There's a lot of sex and violence here, a lot of gnosticism and other explorations of the universe, a lot of cyberpunk and plenty that cannot be pigeonholed. Among the more striking stories: Bruce Sterling's "We See Things Differently" is a tale of future geopolitics, painting a dystopian vision with great economy of words. Ernest Hogan's "The Frankenstein Penis" brings pornography to new heights, or at least new lengths. Editor Rudy Rucker contributes "Rapture in Space", which goes far beyond the simple mechanics of Ben Bova's feeble attempt at exploring zero gee sex in his "Kinsman" stories. Michael Blumlein contributes "Shed His Grace", a dark and revolting vision of the spell of technology. Philip Jose Farmer manages a neat time loop in "Saint Francis Kisses His Ass Goodbye".

Things my dog left behind...
OBERC

All in all, there are nearly fifty works here, including collage from Freddie Baer and other striking graphics, poetry from Lorraine Schein and more, and prose from John Shirley, Robert Anton Wilson, Luke McGuff, t. winter-damon, Richard Kadrey, Lewis Shiner, Thom Metzger, and many more. As with some other cyberpunk writings, occasionally style and form get in the way of stories, but this sort of literary circle-jerking is kept to a minimum here. I'd have to say this is one of the best anthologies I've read in years, and worth checking out by any SF writer who can stand language that gets graphic in many directions. (382 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Michael Scalzi, **A NATIONAL ACROBAT** ($7 from Allan Horrocks, 846 Thomas St., State College, PA 16803): A tale of days and especially nights in college and beyond, from a guy who hangs out and parties but seems to be more introspective about it than most. Black Sabbath music is all wrapped up in this, as are tremendous amounts of LSD and beer, and the shifting interpersonal relationships of a group of friends. Michael is a tolerably good writer and his maddening use of comma splices eventually helps to give the work a unique seamless texture. Maybe hanging around and



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Joseph Uphoff, **LOGIC AND TRAJECTORY** ($5 (?) from Arjuna Library Press, 1025 Garner St., D, Space 18, Colorado Springs, CO 80905): Another collection of mathematical symbols and impenetrable introductory text from Uphoff. This time he quotes formulae from a variety of mathematics and physics texts in between his own flights of utter incomprehensibility. This may be a new genre, but I don't know what can be done with it. (100 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Tony Wheeler, Laurie Fulton, Alan Samagalski, Robert Strauss, Ian McQueen, Geoff Crowther and Robert Storey, **NORTH-EAST ASIA ON A SHOESTRING** ($11.95 from Lonely Planet Publications, Embarcadero West, 112 Linden St., Oakland, CA 94607): There was a time when travel meant dropping off the edge of the world into the unknown perils of foreign lands. But starting in 1973, Tony and Maureen Wheeler created Lonely Planet and began publishing an extensive line of illuminated, living maps that continues to grow and bring light to new territories. Today Lonely Planet publications cover most of the world's countries and regions. Each book is an in depth, practical treatment of travel to specific countries and regions of the world; how to get visas, what to bring, what health precautions to take, where to eat, what not to eat, where to stay, what to do, what to see, these questions and a myriad of others are addressed and exhaustively treated with phone numbers, addresses, names of individuals and companies. The books provide the practical information and extensive field research needed to make travel a truly feasible activity. In addition to the practical value, the publications are richly instilled with in depth information about the music, foods, traditions, religion, history, intellectual life, leisure, family life and cultural differences to provide the intellectual and emotional basis for learning from what you see.

NORTH=EAST ASIA ON A SHOESTRING is a treatment of the regions of Japan, South and North Korea, China, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macau. It is the combined work of seven Lonely Planet writers and editors. Unlike the "Travel Survival Kit" series, the "on a Shoestring" series covers whole regions rather than one explicit area, If you are planning a trip of great length you should consider buying the individual books on Japan, China, etc., each of which will provide much greater detail. Osaka, for example, is treated on two pages of the Shoestring guide whereas the TSK guide contains closer to twenty. For the traveler who's on a whirlwind tour though, the Shoestring guide is ideal and certainly takes up less space in your bag than several books would. Unlike most of the TSK books, this guide contains no photographs to give you a feel for the place beforehand, Maps, diagrams and graphics are provided in abundance, but sometimes when you're planning to travel an area as wide as North-East Asia, a few pictures can help you focus on a few destinations. Though some of the book, particularly the introductory chapters to each region, is straightforward reading, the bulk of it is data, which is better referenced than read. Though I would recommend Lonely Planet books over any other series in existence, I still have yet to find one of their guides I would want to read straight through, Still, a Lonely Planet book on the road can become as close a friend as your passport and every bit as useful. (328 pp. tpb)(Guest review by J.B. Miller)

★★★★★

Curtis White (ed.), **AN ILLUMINATED HISTORY OF THE FUTURE** ($8.95 from Sun & Moon Press, PO Box 481170, Los Angeles, CA 90048-9377): A collection of short stories from the cutting edge of modern fiction, including contributions from previous authors published by the Fiction Collective—Don Webb, Gerald Vizenor, Constance Pierce and R.M. Berry. Besides these, there's a lot to appreciate here. Beverly Brown's "Gardener" manages a tale of horror which is simultaneously ecological parable and darned good experimental writing. Misha's "The Koi", a reprint from elsewhere in the small press, but worth reading again, sees a future

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of magic and technology with crystal clarity. Much background is imparted in her story by little deatils, a slice of the world that illuminates the whole. Conger Beasley Jr. contributes "Japan Invades America: A Scenario", which takes our cultural fears and interprets them literally to good effect.

Overall, this is writing on the edge, somewhere between deranged mainstream and the newest wave of science fiction. As with many experiments, these pieces don't always work. A good example is Paul Garrison's story which makes baseball a strange and wonderful thing, but doesn't quite "click" for me. But on the whole, this is a volume worth spending an evening with. (255 pp. tpb)

BOOK NOTES

•**Amok Fourth Dispatch** is a fat, phone-book sized catalog of books from beyond the fringe, available by mail or in person at their LA store. Here's how they stack up against the Loompanics catalog, with which you should be familiar: Graphically, Amok is a lot prettier, with plenty of photo excerpts and a more modern design. In coverage, Amok is better on dead people, odd fiction and depravity; Loompanics has the edge in killing people, changing your identity, and avoiding the authorities. On prices, they seem to be about evenly matched. Amok has lots of short excerpts from the works it sells, rather than long essays written especially for the catalog. Given the strengths of both companies, and the lack of duplication between their stocks, I'd say any serious student of the strange has to get both catalogs. This one is $5 when ordered directly from Amok at PO Box 861867, Terminal Annex, Los Angeles, CA 90086-1867.

•**Arte Publico Press** is the largest publisher of Hispanic literature in the country, Their catalog is available from The Americas Review, University of Houston, Houston, TX 77204-2090.

•The 4th edition of the **BASEBALL CARD PRICE GUIDE** is now out. You can get a copy for $16.45 from Sports Book Dept., Krause Publications, 700 E. State St., Iola, WI 54990-0001.

•**Books Are Everything** (302 Martin Dr., Richmond, KY 40475) holds frequent auctions of collectible vintage paperbacks. You can get the current price list from them for $5.

•**Bump in the Night Books** sent me their catalogue #10, featuring about 450 SF, horror and other "imaginative fiction" first and signed editions. A buck should land you a copy.

•**Chris Drumm Books** (PO Box 445, Polk City, IA 50226) continues to send out frequent catalogs of his new and used SF and related books, including the booklets he produces himself. Of note lately is the $10 per year membership plan which can save you 40% off many of the new books you buy—make sure you ask for details when you send a buck for the latest catalog.

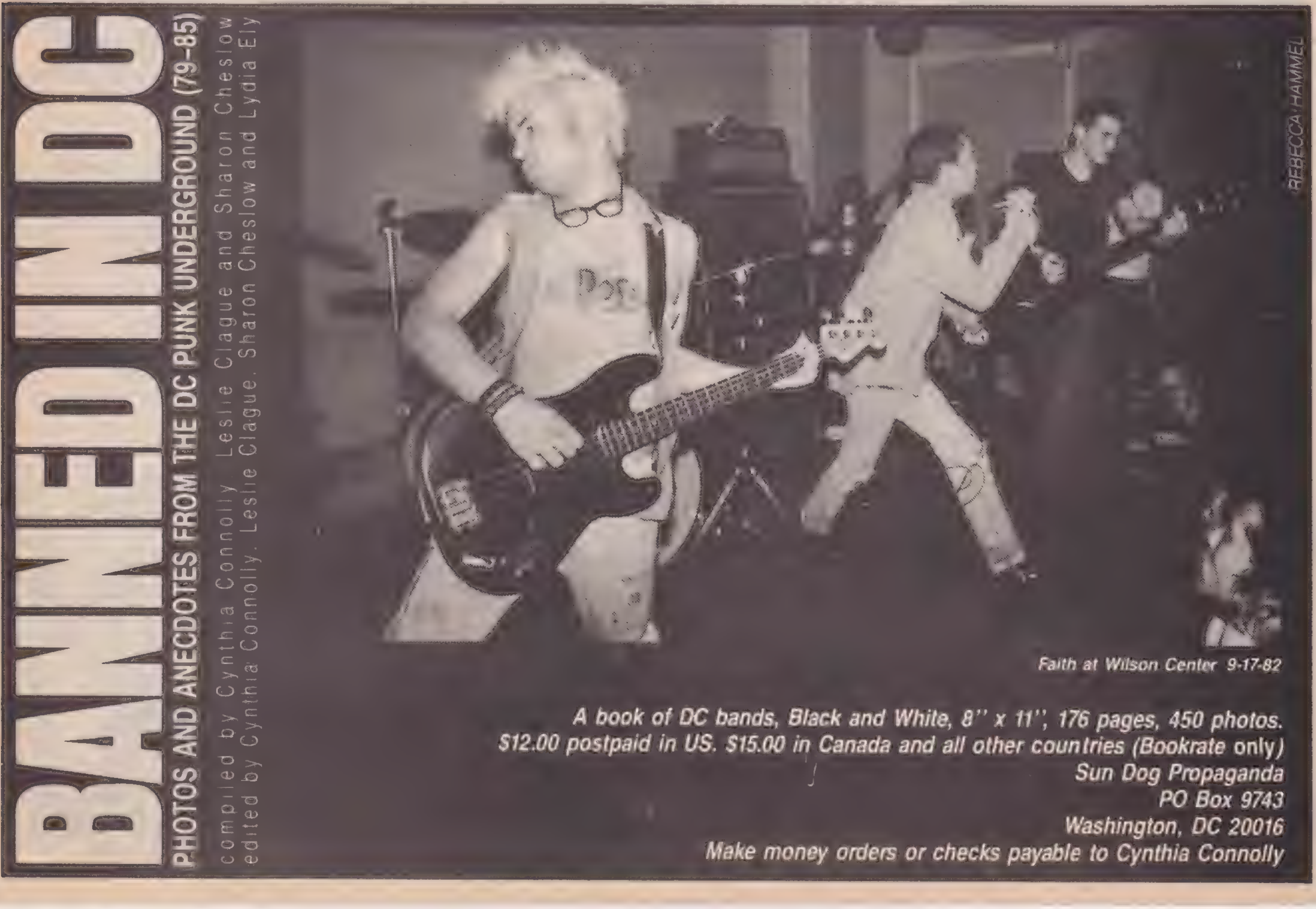
•**D.C. Books** (30 Clifford Dr., West Hartford, CT 06107) has a new catalog out, featuring more SF first and signed editions. Send a couple of stamps to see some of his selection.

•**Delectus Books** Delectus Books(27 Old Gloucester Street, London WC1N 3XX, ENGLAND) are purveyors of "quality erotic books", new and used, with a slant towards sadism masochism, and other suppressed tendencies. Their catalog is available for £1 and a self-addressed large envelope.

•**Elderly Instruments** (PO Box 14210, Lansing, MI 48901) sell all manner of stuff relating to classic and acoustic instruments. In particular, you can get their catalog of books and videotapes for $2.

•**Ichthys Books** (PO Box 1701, Glenwood Springs, CO 81602) is a "Pro-American, Patriotic, Christian" publisher and book distributor. What that quote doesn't mention is that they're also anti-semitic; they see the commies and the Jews as the foes of America, listing the ACLU as a communist front and the pornographers as a Jewish one. I suspect any rabid plea would get you more information.

•**Knowledge Systems Inc.** (7777 W. Morris St., Indianapolis, IN 46231) offers a wide variety of books for those interested in personal and social change, with the emphasis on new ways of seeing the world as we move towards a new millenium. You can get their latest catalog, **GUIDEBOOK FOR THE '90s**, for $2.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•**Llewellyn Publications** (PO Box 64383, St. Paul, MN 55164-0383) will send you a copy of their "New Times" catalog of New Age, metaphysical and magical books for $2.

•**Lonely Planet** (Embarcadero West, 112 Linden St., Oakland, CA 94607) has put out their Spring/Summer 1990 catalog of exotic and shoestring travel books, and have also announced the publication of the **LONELY PLANET NEWSLETTER**, with updates to their books. You should be able to get either one just for the asking.

•**Loompanics Unlimited** (PO Box 1197, Port Townsend, WA 98368) has their 1990 main catalog out, and it's a 200+ page whopper. Besides listings for all sorts of suppressed and little-known books (topics from explosives to forged ID to anarchism to drugs to sexy women firing sexy guns on videotapes) they have half a dozen special essays. These include Robert Shea on the apparatchik phenomenon, sex comics from Ace Backwords, and an interview with Holocaust Revisionist Bradley Smith. $3 will get you a copy.

•**Dave McClintock** (PO Box 1949, Warren, OH 44482-1949) sells various interesting horror, SF, speculative and collector's books by mail. You can get his latest catalog for 25¢.

•**Mysteries By Mail** (PO Box 679, Boonville, CA 95415-0679) offers over 300 new books, games, videos and a money-back guarantee in their latest catalog. Looks like about a buck's worth of catalog.

•**Mystery Sales List** comes from Jeffrey Meyerson, 8801 Shore Rd. 6A-East, Brooklyn, NY 11209. Send a buck to get his next list and have hundreds of titles to choose from.

•**Harold R. Nestler** (13 Pennington Ave., Waldwick, NJ 077463) offers rate and out of print books, pamphlets and journals with a technological bent—everything from newspaper catalogs to biographies of inventors to instructions for weaving nets. Over 500 items are listed in this catalog. Probably $2 will land you a copy.

•**NONE DARE CALL IT TREASON—25 YEARS LATER** is an update of John Stormer's famous rabidly anti-Communist book, blaming them for everything from Judge Bork's defeat to "unrestrained sexual activity". Copies are $23.95 from Liberty Bell Press, PO Box 32-J, Florissant, MO 63032.

•**Paladin Press** is perhaps the nation's leading supplier of books on various ways to kill people, as well as associated topics like revenge and hiding drugs from the DEA. You can get their latest catalog for a buck from PO Box 1307, Boulder, CO 80306.

•**Soft Books** (89 Marion St., Toronto, ONT, M6R 1E6, CANADA) is another dealer of used SF books, mostly paperbacks. You can get a catalog on request.

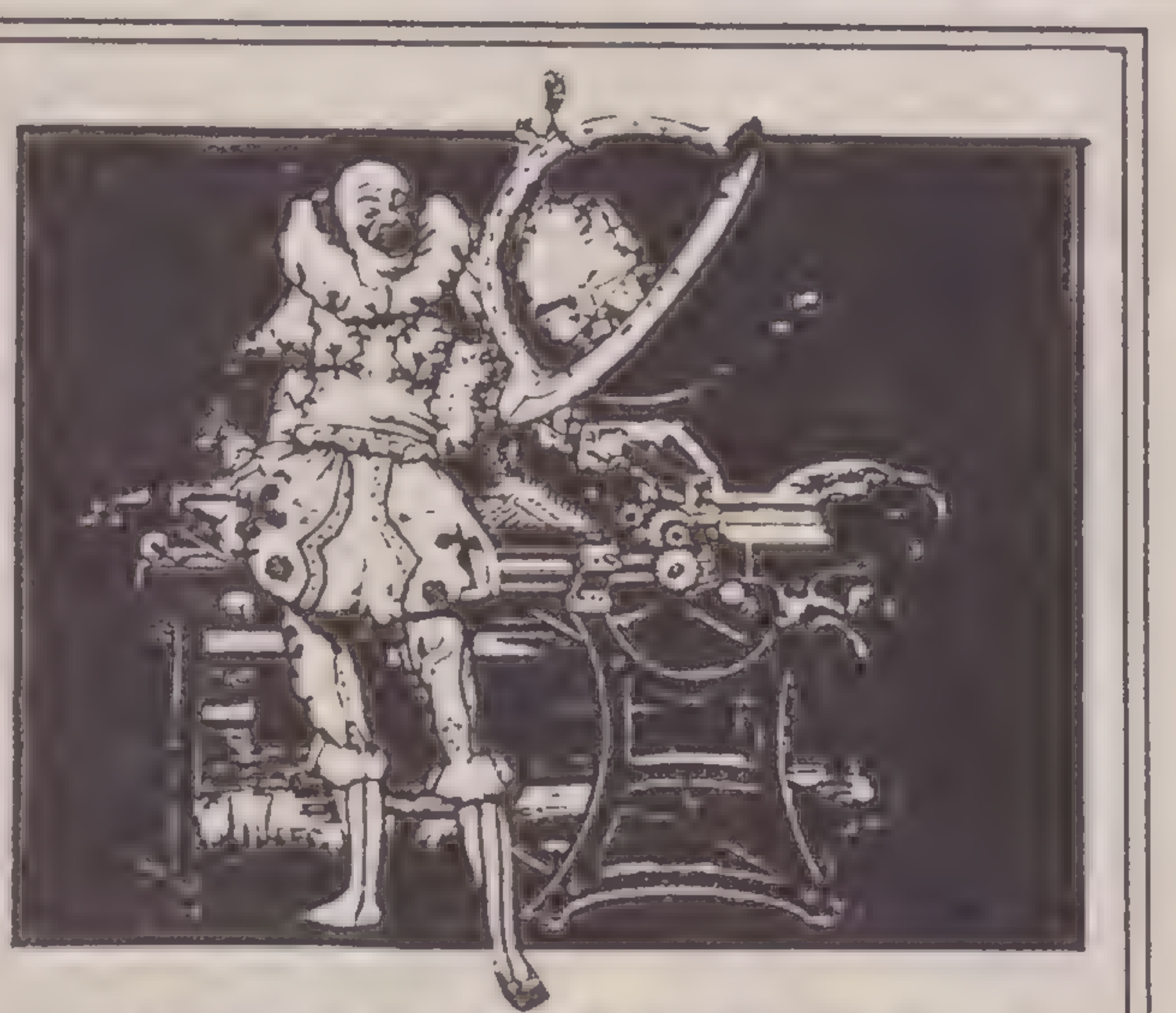
•**The Sure-Fire Business Success Catalog** comes from Jeffrey Lant, who has written an armload of books on entrepreneurship and self-promotion and making money on your own. You can get on the mailing list for free by writing to Jeffrey Lant Associates, 50 Follen St. #507, Cambridge, MA 02138.

•**Turtle Island Books** carries an extensive assortment of Native American and related books, tapes, videos and other stuff. Their catalog is about $2 worth, from The Bear Tribe, PO Box 9167, Spokane, WA 99209-9167.

•**Wayfarer Publications** (PO Box 26156, Los Angeles, CA 90026) are a specialty distributor carrying a large number of books and videos on T'ai Chi. You should be able to get their current catalog for a buck.

•**Yes! Books & Videos** (PO Box 10726, Arlington, VA 22210) carry all sorts of New Age stuff. Judging by how many catalogs they've mailed me without prompting, I daresay you can get on to their list for free.

•**Ziesing Catalog #85** is still full of all sorts of great SF and obscure books and some zines for sale, with commentary by my good buddy and bookseller Mark Ziesing. Lucius Shepard on world music and Andy Watson commenting on books make sure there's even more here to read as well. Send Mark a couple of bucks to get on his mailing list and then buy some books.



FACTSHEET FIVE

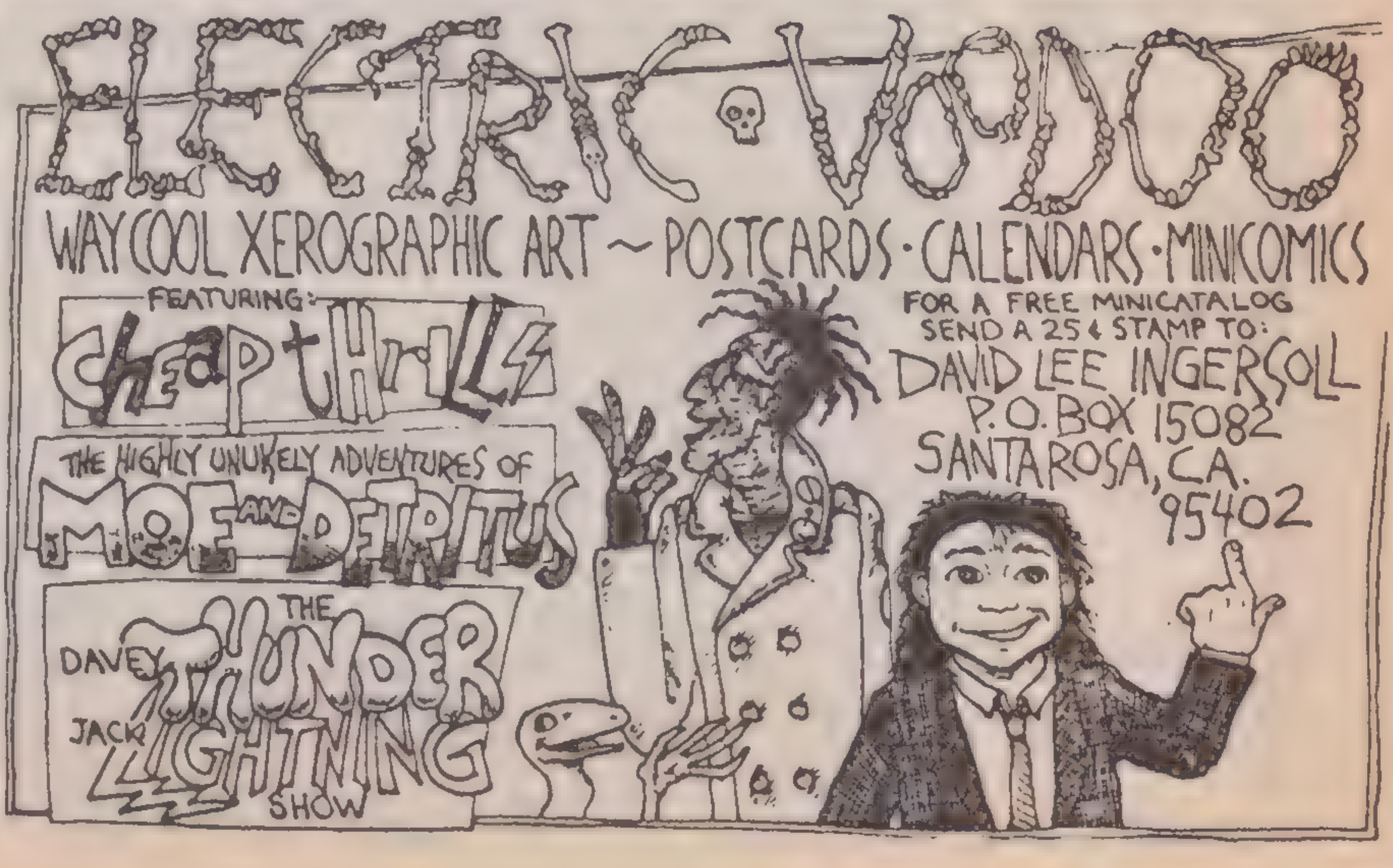
FACTSHEET FIVE T-shirts are now available for $7.00, plus $1.50 postage and handling! Designed by Freddie Baer, they feature an appropriately enigmatic image of the small press, and come on a brilliant yellow shirt in sizes S-XL.

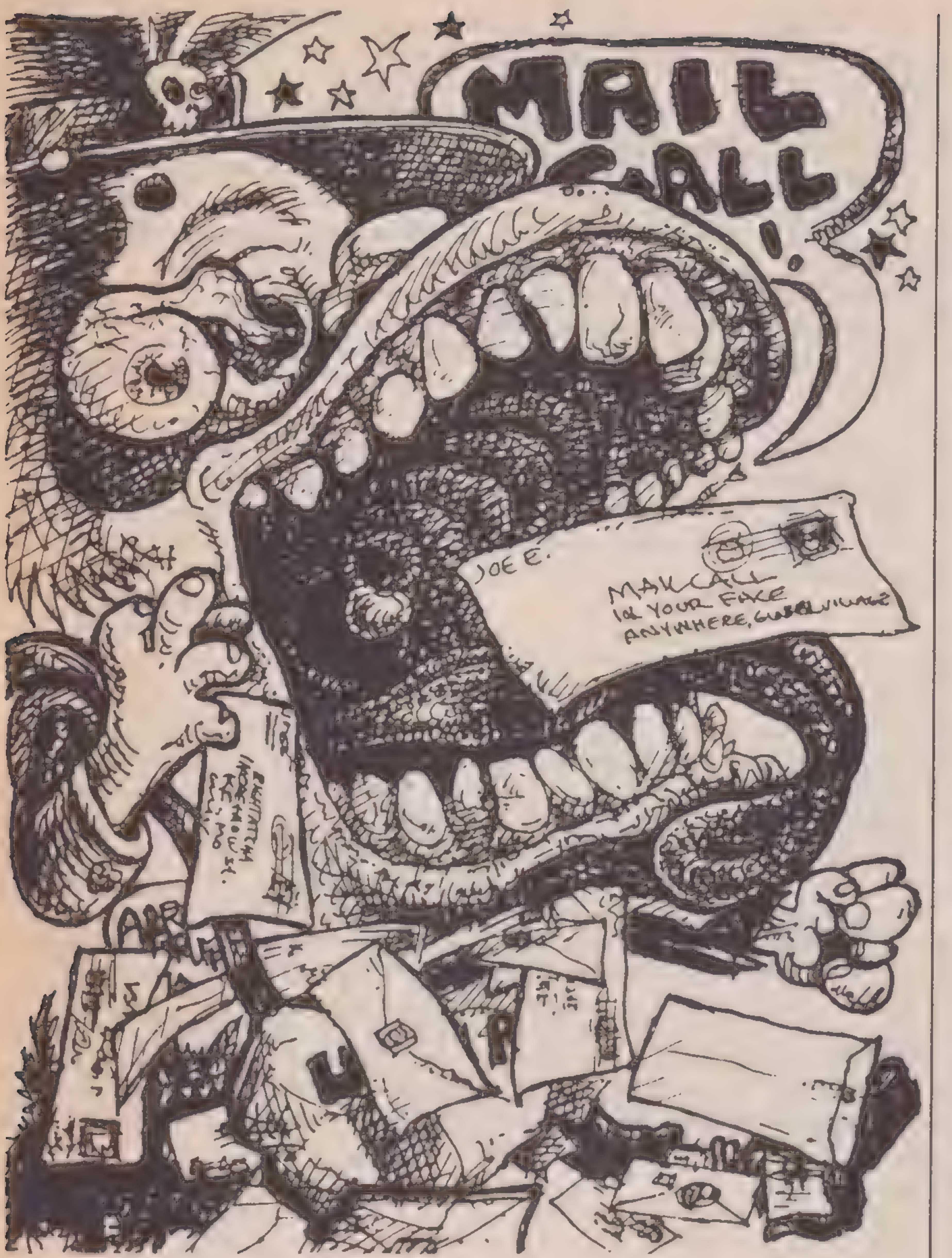
Announcing two new books :

Environmental Gardening (Gardening in Compliance With the Laws of Nature), by Garry De Young. $7.50 plus $1.00 postage.

The Trouble with Temik: An Historical/Environmental Look at Long Island Agriculture and Pesticide Usage, by Jane De Young. $7.95 plus $1.00 postage.

Both available from:
De Young Press
PO Box 7252
Spencer, Iowa 51301-7252
50% discount to booksellers.


ELECTRIC VOODOO
WAYCOOL XEROGRAPHIC ART ~ POSTCARDS · CALENDARS · MINICOMICS
FEATURING:
Cheap Thrills
THE HIGHLY UNLIKELY ADVENTURES OF MOE AND DETRITUS
DAVEY JACK THE THUNDER LIGHTNING SHOW
FOR A FREE MINICATALOG SEND A 25¢ STAMP TO:
DAVID LEE INGERSOLL
P.O. BOX 15082
SANTA ROSA, CA.
95402



The video section is starting to look promising but I for one don't have any desire to own any video cassettes. Do you see any potential for these video producers renting their flicks—say with a full pre payment deposit?

Steve Chamay

/* Well, no one has mentioned such an arrangement to me, but I don't see why it wouldn't be possible. Producers? */

★★★★★

So far, I've invested about $80-$100 for several dozen publications listed in **FF**. The results have been amazing: trash and treasures. I always warn people that I saw them mentioned in **FF**. So far, I've subscribed to some of the magazines.

According to my checkbook:
15 publications delivered (& check cashed)
5 publications have not yet cashed my check - nothing sent
2 publications returned my uncashed check
2 publications cashed my check and did *not* send anything
Looks like a failure rate of 8%. Not bad!

Sid Miller

★★★★★

Do you have a reliable Tshirt printing source? We want to have some GenX Tshirts made up.

Janet Christon
GENDER EXPRESSIONS

/* Well, no, I don't. But I'm sure someone out there must have one who does good cheap fast work by mail, which is something I could use from time to time myself. Readers? */

★★★★★

Well, I finally fucking arrived at my final destination where I will do the rest of my time going through psychotherapy, AA, NA and all the rest of that shit. I'll be here for a while. My plans will go through when I get out, I assure you.

Kevin "GG" Allin - 206045
Lock-D-4
PO Box 1900
Adrian, MI 49221

★★★★★

III Publishing is looking for book length manuscripts for possible publication. We prefer novel length works of satire or giving insight into people and society; they can be in any genre, for instance science fiction, horror, or realistic. They should be comprehensible to people with high school graduate reading abilities. We are anarchists, so will not consider any sexist, racist, or pro-hierarchy works. Writers should send us a query, outline, and not more than ten sample pages before submitting a manuscript, and all submissions must contain a self-addressed stamped return envelope.

Bill Meyers
III Publishing
PO Box 620362
San Diego, CA 92162

★★★★★

There is an organization that caters to the pen pal needs of prisoners. It is a prison ministry—open to non-Christians as well. Donna is a gem and very warm-hearted. Her literature is free to all, but I'm sure donations would be appreciated whenever possible. I'm sure she can help many incarcerated persons who are searching for friends to correspond with on a personal level. She also needs volunteers "on the outside" who will write with prisoners. The address is: Donna Lee, Pen-Pals International Corresponding Service, PO Box 1006, Warrensburg, MO 64093. Hope this will be helpful to some of your readers.

Rhonda-Lisa Wilk

★★★★★

Enclosed please find and enjoy a swatch of my hair—let's just call it my laundry, shall we? With my complements. I have enough laundry stored up in a 9x6 manila envelope to satisfy *at least* 15 customers. I would greatly appreciate it is you would mention to your readers that for an SASE I will provide those interested with a clean and even aromatic sampling of my hair, which, in case some may wish to politely address or enquire about the talismanic item in question, I insistently prefer to refer to, again, as *laundry* (no quotes, please).

Brett Larsen
3573 18th St.
San Francisco, CA 94110.

★★★★★

The most recent issues of **SKYLARK** and **ZYMURGY**, both Canadian periodicals, have included reviews by me of some **SAMISDAT** publications. I'll be having reviews in upcoming issues of **THE HUMANIST IN CANADA** and **CANADIAN AUTHOR AND BOOKMAN** as well. I'm mentioning this because I am interested in getting review copies of other small press publications, especially poetry chapbooks.

Brian Burch
44B Spruce St.
Toronto, ONT, M5A 2H9
CANADA

★★★★★

Concerning your review of "Fuzzy Logic" in **FF#34**: The issue of abortion is a very important one, and I don't want to be taken ambiguously on it. I believe that all women are entitled to *SAFE AND LEGAL ABORTION*. Any society that denies this is regressive. As for the lyrics of the song "Zygote", I don't think I want to spell it all about here.

TWISTED SMILE
a novella about drug dealing
"...nice style, and I enjoyed reading this."
- Mike Gunderloy FS5
$2.50 ppd.
Ken Wagner
511 W. Sullivan
Olean, NY 14760

The song is about many things at one time and I want the song to be open to interpretation. My feelings on abortion, however, are as stated above.

MJB-90

★★★★★

In your review of **JAKE WILDER'S BIG...** (etc). you said something about "prodrug" propaganda. Actually, I conside the statement "Only drugs make you as happy as the people in ads" to be pretty strongly anti-drug. Have you ever really watched the people in teevee ads? Has fabric softener, underarm deoderant, or fast food ever made you as happy as these people appear to be? Doesn;'t it seem to be a completely artificial, artificailly induced, artificially sped-up, means of existence? Particularly ironic is the ecstatic, sometimes nearly orgasmic, expression of the people in the fast food ads, considering how chemically-based most of those foods are.

Luke McGuff

★★★★★

Your review of **THE ORGONE ACCUMULATOR HANDBOOK** by James DeMeo, Ph.D. said more about you than it did about the book. To fill your readers in, "orgone" is a biological form of energy. It was discovered in 1940 by Wilhelm Reich, M.D. after a long search for a biological basis for Freud's libido theory. Reich was able to concentrate orgone in a simple device (the orgone accumulator) and successfully destroy tumors in cancer mice as well as terminally ill human patients. While the accumulator is now being used in German hospitals in the treatment of a variety of ailments, to do so in this country would put an M.D. in serious legal jeopardy. Reich was hounded by the FDA during the fifties and was sentenced to a two-year jail term. In a court case *unique in American history Reich's books and research materials were ordered burned by the US Federal government.* Thus, **THE ORGONE ACCUMULATOR HANDBOOK** is the only book in print with plans for the construction of an accumulator. Since the FDA harassment of this research continues *to this day*, and since the accumulator may well be an inexpensive alternative to drug and radiation treatment of cancer, it might be useful to give Reich's research a second look.

In a interview I did with you for the 1990 Flatland Catalog you said that **FACTSHEET** reviews tend to be informative, rather than critical, except in cases of deep prejudice, sexism, homophobia, etc. I find your review of **THE ORGONE ACCUMULATOR HANDBOOK** in stark contrast to that statement. You said that publishers go through enough difficulties getting heard, and that nurturing was better than criticism. You are aware of the historical suppression of this material. Is this review "nurturing?" You mention the word orgone (without defining it), drop Reich's name, and launch a tirade. In that same interview I recall you mentioning, off the record, that a fellow publisher was an "asshole" because his personal communication to you was hypocritically different than his published review of your work. Well, I guess the old saying is true, opinions are like assholes, everybody's got one. For anyone interested in the book, I've reviewed it in the new 1990 Flatland Catalog of zines, books and pamphlets, which also contains a lengthy review with its author. Send $12 to the address below.

Jim Martin/Flatland
PO Box 2420
Fort Bragg, CA 95437-2420

© 1990 DAVID LEE INGERSOLL

/* I stand by my original review; I see no need to "nurture" a book filled with fantasy masquerading as science any more than I do to nurture one filled with homophobia. As for the second paragraph, I'm not being hypocritical. My private opinion of orgone therapy—as documented in letters I have written to several people—is the same as my public one: it's nonsense. I base this on my own reading of works by Reich and others, works by their opponents, the inability of its proponents to fit orgone research into the framework of science, and personal experience of people I know who've tried accumulators. That's enough for me.

FF readers may be interested to know that Flatland cancelled their distribution contract for **FACTSHEET FIVE** as a result of the review in question. */

★★★★★

You may want to let your readership know that Paul R. Plaisance and Peripheral Press have seceded from the United States of America and founded the Anarchist country of Freedonia, registered with the U.S. State Department and the United Nations. SASE will get information.

Paul R. Plaisance
716 Penn Ave. NE #5
Atlanta, GA 30308

★★★★★

The Freer Places Project is compiling a directory of cities, small countries, and other areas (in the U.S. and elsewhere) which have less taxes, fewer restrictions on small businesses, fewer barriers to low-cost build-it-yourself housing, fewer barriers to food self-reliance, less interference with travel, fewer laws against victimless "crimes" or less enforcement of them, and more tolerance of unorthodox consensuality, etc., than do most comparable places.

The Freer Places Project offers $300 in prizes. Each person who suggests one of the twelve places judged most free, will receive $20 cash. (If two or more suggest the same place, the one providing the most useful information will receive $20; the others, smaller awards. Everyone who sends significant information will also receive a free copy of the directory, whether or not their place wins. Entry is free. Entries for the first edition must be received by Oct. 31, 1990.

Pat Underhill
c/o Correspan
PO Box 759
Veneta, OR 97487

★★★★★

In **FACTSHEET FIVE #34**'s "Conspiracy Corner" I'm quoted correctly as writing in a 1986 notebook: "...this is no time to be plotting a Communist Anarchist Revolution."

Since then the crisis in Bolshevism has made that opinion dangerously obsolete. Never have times been riper for building powerful anarcho-syndicalist federations on the model of the Industrial Workers of the World and of the Spanish CNT. Nor has such work ever been more necessary.

A majority of these organizations should consist of Third World nonCaucasians—a precaution against both racism and irrelevance. (Perhaps the first racially integrated organization in the American South was a union organized by the IWW in Louisiana lumber camps.)

All convoluted ends-justifying-the-means tactics should be eschewed, including conspiracy and secrecy—beyond an unavoidable minimum needed to get from wherever we find ourselves now to mass movement politics.

Individuals who want to drop out and travel around could take up the lifestyle of the old IWW organizers, selling buttons and pamphlets on anarchism for a living.

Instead of a central committee, radical countercultural intellectuals can inspire this effort. Instead of a party, anarchistic university students (particularly on campuses with significant foreign exchange programs) can reach out to the masses. Instead of the urban working class, the Third World peasantry can form the backbone of this permanent uprising against taxation, ground rent, loan interest and irrational traditionalism. (No religion without God this time around: no sexism and no sexual puritanism and no rabid nationalism should be encouraged an iota, for any purpose.)

Smash the State,

Kerry Wendell Thornley

★★★★★

I'm going to contribute 5% of sales of **FUNNY PAGES** to **FF**. I plan on doing this for one year.

Joe Workman.

/* Thanks, Joe. I really appreciate things like this. And if other publishers get inspired to follow your example, I won't object. */

★★★★★

I'd like to create a contact box zine with addresses of people from all the world who would like to exchange informations, zines, records, cassettes, videos, to get to know independent music from other countries. If you are interested in it, if you want your address printed in this zine send it to me on a postcard please. Don't forget to write what language you can write in, If you want publish some ads write too, If you are a zine maker reprint my ad please.

Ryszard Kapusta
Wojska Polskiego 5 A
36 - 100 Kolbuszowa
woj. Rzeszow

POLAND

★★★★★

I have not been able to locate the modem # of WeirdNet on any of the usual boards...Do you or the **FF** readership know this number?

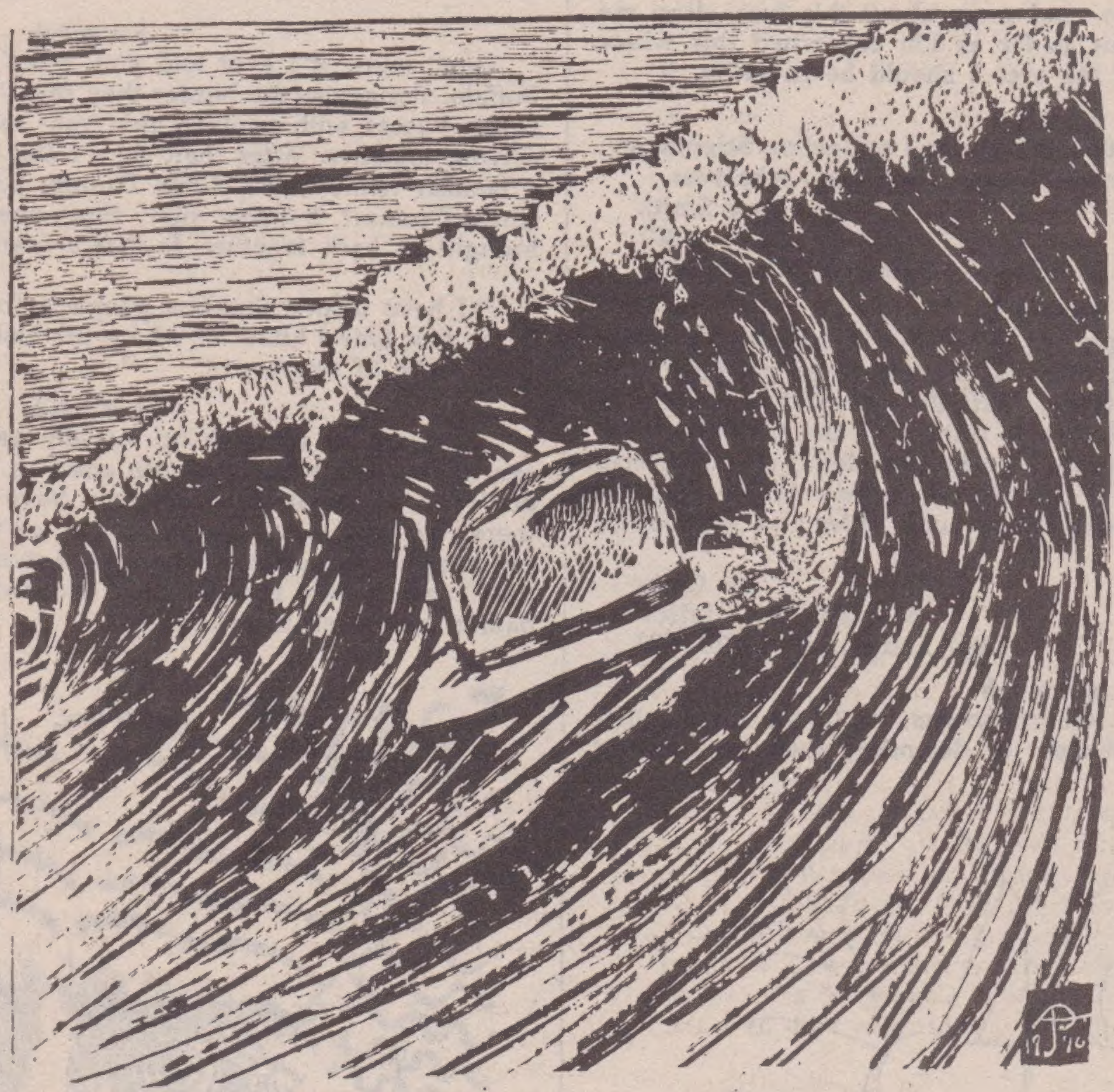
Coralee McKain
Route 1 Box 123-L2
Fernandina Beach, FL 32034

/* Readers? */

★★★★★

I'd like top announce some sort of tape exchange deal called CONFIDENTIAL. Basically, the idea is—send me a postcard & I'll send a tape w/words on it. The people can keep the tape or record over it & send it back—thereby creating a dialogue.

Random Art Transfer
504 W. 24th #48
Austin, TX 78705



★★★★★

Free money. Have I got your attention? I would like to apologize loudly, and send money back to everyone who got stiffed. About a year and a half ago, I fell in love, lost my goddamn mailing list, stopped publishing, and resigned from homo erectus. **BRICK PILLOW**, my zine and name, were never heard from again. Now I'm back, but the zine is dead forever and ever amen. Send a post card (addressed not to me, but to "Resident"), tell me how much I owe you, and briefly say something about my zine (this to discourage throngs of moochers). I will send bucks back to make good. It's been bugging me for long enough.

Brick Pillow
PO Box 1715
Lynwood, WA 98036

★★★★★

I list most of my poetry due to circumstances beyond my control. If your small press has my work, could you please send me copies of let me know how I can get it back?

M. Brownstein
PO Box 268805
Chicago, IL 60626-8805

★★★★★

I am looking for every Skinny Puppy live audio tape or video ever recorded, as well as promo posters and press kits.

Mike/SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTION

3943 Cumnor Rd.,
Downers Grove, IL 60515

★★★★★

I am compiling a collection of materials related to tattooing. If anyone has any photos, articles, business cards or related material, I'd be really pleased to get hold of it. I'll try to send them something in return that interests them (if they specify) or if that's not possible I'll send them something I think should interest them anyway!...The Dollyhead International has also started a "Dollyhead Museum", although we request people not to decapitate their little sisters' dolls on our behalf, we humbly ask anyone who has a spare doll's head that they could send us to do so as soon as possible. We will attempt to reciprocate the kind gesture in a fashion fitting tot he specimen.

Chris de Coulon Berthoud
The Dollyhead International
c/o 73 Fitzgerald House
169 East India Dock Road
London E14 0HH
ENGLAND

★★★★★

You didn't mention the phoney Tax Board threat shit I got, or the Klan Mail received at my home address, in #34. Hope you do in #35. As well as the Police Raid on my home last month (no search warrant). I now have complaints on Fiile—being investigated. I'm suing with help from the ACLU. And why only critizisms of WWMU in our news? And not their review as well? People could wonder by reading it—that it is not the WWMU fucking with us. It is. That review in light of their known scams (& what about their homophobic attacks?) was too easy on 'em. Also we are now officially preparing to go to court against Fender, Goldenvoice, and Long Beach PD. Court summons have now been served on them!! My demands for possible settlement remain the same. $300,000. Get this: Tim Y (MRR) was seen driving around & at Gilman—in a brand new Lincoln Continental. What a Red-Yuppie, just like I said...ha!

Ron Gould

Well, I see you're still having your misconceived thots dictated by nazi ron. Actually, ronny wrote me a threatening letter about me having shit sent to him in the mail, but as I know nothing about it, i just put it in with the rest of paper to be recycled. If you want, talk to Tim Yo, or Darby (of **BEN IS DEAD**) or Al Flipside. I'm sure they'll tell you what an idiotic fascist that 33-yr. old schizoid really is. I really do resent you talking about what's going on over here as if you live here. You told me on the phone (last year) that you weren't sure about the whole matter (concerning WWMU & ronny) & that you would prefer to stay out of it. Then, in a hypocritical move, you printed "Meanwhile the underground propaganda campaign against ron gould continues w/a mix of fantasy and distorted fact, apparently fueled by members of the WWMU, including Tin-ear from **HAPPY THRASHER**." The only "fantasy & distorted fact" is provided by ronny. Yes, we are spreading propaganda against ronny, but it's by way of a tape of what he's said & letters by people who he has sexually assaulted or just plain assaulted. I've sent you copies of these letters & tapes, yet you continue to be ignorant. So, if that's what ya wanna do, fine. It's your life. But don;t start a bunch of shit by printing lies fed to you by ronny. I'm not going to threaten you (as you have personally said on the phone-that ron has), becos violence is no answer. Please be objective, & until you've visited & know me & what I do, please stay out of it.

Tin-Ear

/* Y'know, I'm sick and tired of being in the middle of all this shit. I have seen ample written documentation, including statements from witnesses, that both Ron Gould and Tin-Ear have done things in the past that I personally will not condone. I've also seen ample evidence that both the IMWU and WWMU have done good things for the indie music scene. I'm no longer going to use my space on the former, while I will continue to publicize the latter. If the combatants want to continue to have their personal troubles in these pages, they're going to have to buy advertising space. **FACTSHEET FIVE** is a place for discussion of the small press, not for accusations and documentation as to who is or is not a Nazi. If there are readers out there who really want to read more about this fuss, drop me a line and I'll reconsider. But as far as I'm concerned this whole thing has gotten well out of the area I should be covering. */

★★★★★

I am compiling for publication everything I can get on Scientology, pro & con. Personal experiences, articles, clippings, whatever.

Jerry Smith
252 W. 1st St. #302
Reno, NV 89501-1238

★★★★★

Professional legal and general researcher. Looking to assist anybody who needs my expertise as a researcher specialist. My service for zines, books, tapes. But the word "publisher" or "publishing" or "bookstore" has to be printed on the envelope when paying me for my service, because I am incarcerated. I cannot receive posters or bumper stickers. I can receive money in the form of money orders but I prefer books, zines, audio tapes and newspapers for payment for my work.

Jay Gates
Montana State Prison
Deer Lodge, MT 59722-9707

★★★★★

I need to get in touch with prisoners, who can write other prisoners, who are in for the sin of defending their lives and/or property. No con-artists please, just those who are guilty of no other "crime". I'm especially interested in hearing from prisoners from state, such as Ohio, whose state legislatures have reduced the standard of "reasonable doubt" to a lower standard than was set by the US Supreme Court in *Re Winship*...Non-prisoners please send SASE or loose stamps., My aim is to start a newsletter to appeal to the taxpayers, as taxpayers money can be better used than to incarcerate innocent people.

Rabbi Jacob Feuerwerker
PO Box 56-A187402
3-E-35
Lebanon, OH 45036-0056

★★★★★

I would like to trade guitar picks (just to have picks from all over) with anyone who'd like to.

Torie
360 Kent Dr.
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

★★★★★

Don't know if I ever told you, but I spent Woodstock in jail in Buffalo. Pot across the border they said—it wasn't true, but anyway. I was busted with another guy from my college, Beloit. We were driving together. After than time I lost track of him.. Then I saw a familiar name in F5. Chris Drumm books—could it be the same Chris Drumm? I wrote him. Sure enough! After 21 years! You brought us back together! Is that a first?

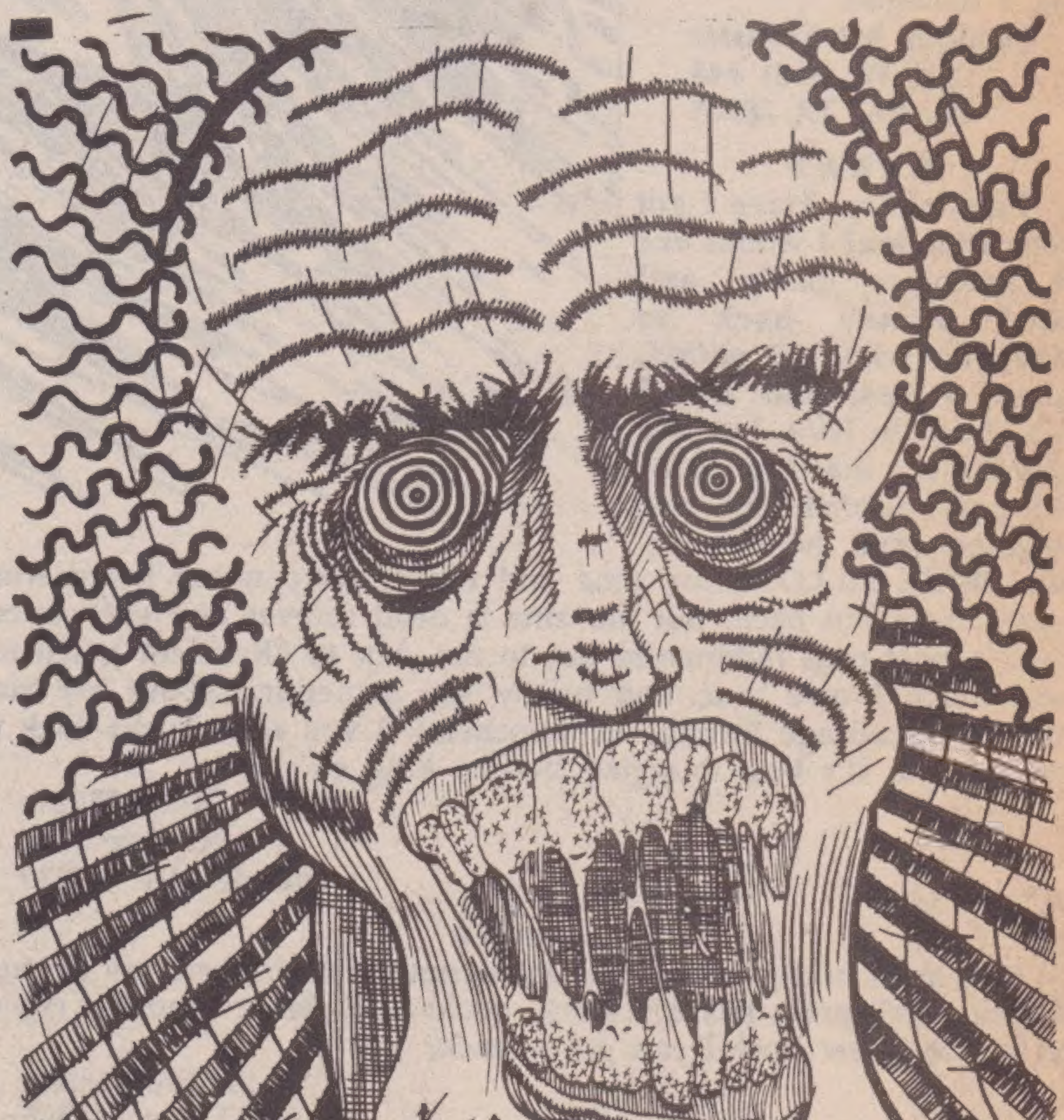
Mykel Board

/* I have helped find lost people a couple times before—but this is the first time I know of where the hiatus had been quite so long. Glad to be of service. */

★★★★★

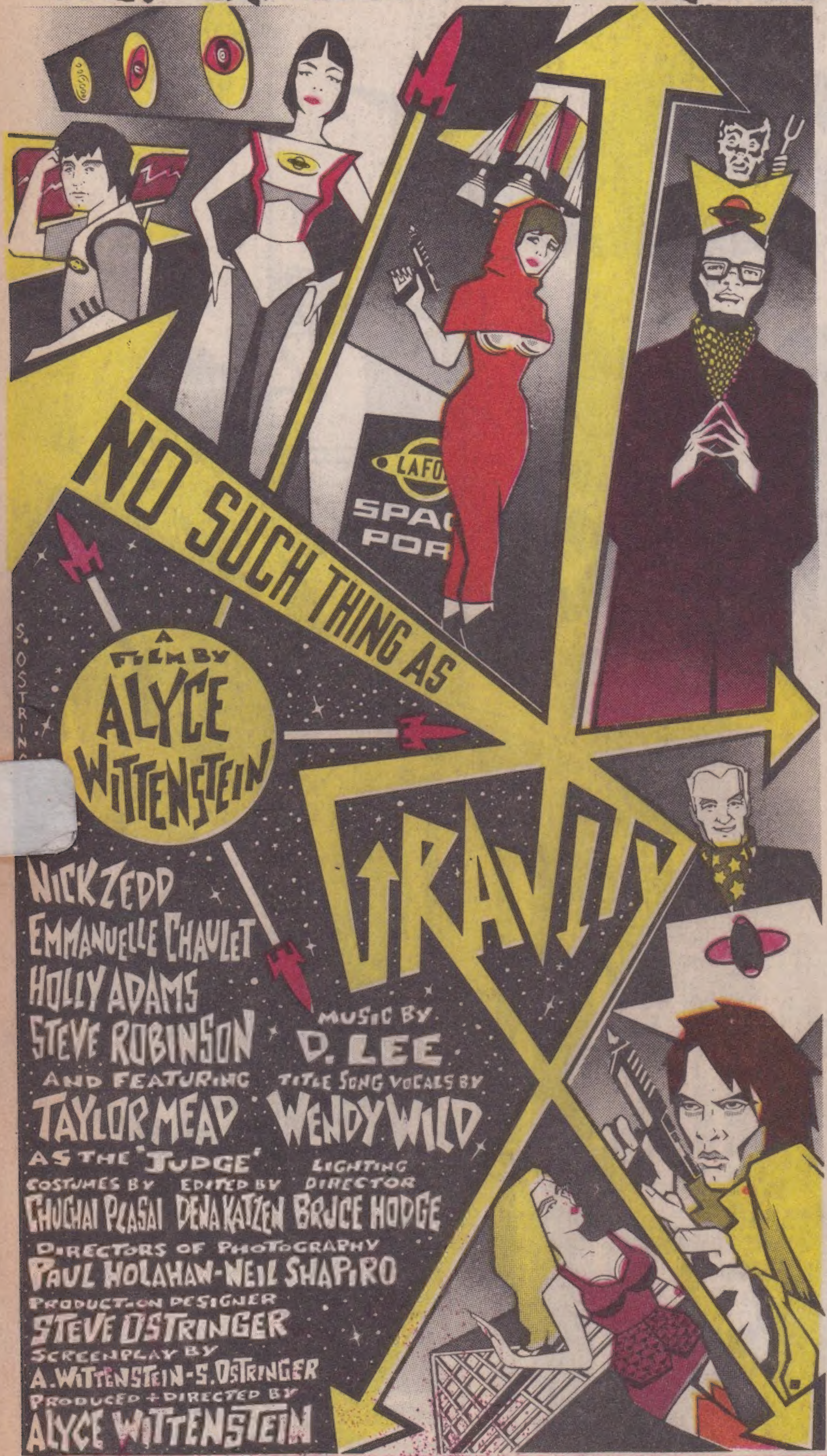
There are an amazing no. of silly people out there. Some have sent me money with no return address; others send me money but don't tell me what for; when you have more than 1 project going there's no way, other than price, to tell what these guys want. You can imagine my horror at having sent someone **RAISED BY WOLVES** Vol. 2 when they thought they had ordered **RUBBER PUPPY**, but hadn't mentioned it specifically.

Bill Bohrer.



MOOBL

"WE'D RATHER DIE HERE THAN LIVE ON EARTH!"


NO SUCH THING AS
A FILM BY
ALYCE WITTENSTEIN
GRAVITY
LAFO
SPAC
POR
S. OSTRINGER
NICK ZEDD
EMMANUELLE CHAULET
HOLLY ADAMS
STEVE ROBINSON
AND FEATURING
TAYLOR MEAD
AS THE 'JUDGE'
MUSIC BY
D. LEE
TITLE SONG VOCALS BY
WENDY WILD
COSTUMES BY
CHUCHAI PLASAI
EDITED BY
DENA KATZEN
LIGHTING DIRECTOR
BRUCE HODGE
DIRECTORS OF PHOTOGRAPHY
PAUL HOLAHAN-NEIL SHAPIRO
PRODUCTION DESIGNER
STEVE OSTRINGER
SCREENPLAY BY
A. WITTENSTEIN-S. OSTRINGER
PRODUCED + DIRECTED BY
ALYCE WITTENSTEIN

says Claire Forman (Emmanuelle Chaulet), the seductive ambassador from alternative planet Nova Terra in Alyce Wittenstein's new film **NO SUCH THING AS GRAVITY**. Passions flare as Adam Malkonian, Esq. (Nick Zedd), ambitious scientists (Holly Adams and Steve Robinson), a corporate tyrant (Fred Wittenstein) and a wacked out judge (Taylor Mead) battle to preserve their interests in the face of humanity's twilight. Expressionist black and white photography shot at the sight of the 1964 World's Fair in punctuated by an original score by D. Lee and climaxes with Wendy Wild's rendition of the film's ominous theme song. Armed with Wittenstein's sick sense of humour, **GRAVITY** warns of a capitalist fascism that could be right around the corner.

"...the most subversive film to come out this year."

- Orion Jeriko,
UNDERGROUND FILM BULLETIN

"(Alyce) captured the real Zedd...I laughed my head off!"

- Chris Gore,
FILM THREAT

"NO SUCH THING AS GRAVITY continues with the quest (Wittenstein) began with **BETAVILLE**, that of mixing science fiction with sharp political commentary...she once again addresses distressing problems with finesse, style and good sense of humour."

- Robert Carobene,
CINEMAPHOBIA

NOW ON VIDEO

CUT HERE↓ ✂

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New York, NY 10013

Verge

GRAVITY tapes	$30	___	___
BETAVILLE tapes	$15	___	___
GRAVITY & BETAVILLE	$40	___	___
GRAVITY T-SHIRTS	$15	___	___
BETAVILLE T-SHIRTS	$10	___	___
Stills (each)	$2.50	___	___
		TOTAL	___

FOR PAL SYSTEM TAPES, CONTACT: ARTWARE, TAUNUSSTR.38, 6200 WEISBADEN, W. GERMANY. REQUEST CATALOG.

ALL PRICES INCLUDE POSTAGE. ALL TAPES ARE VHS, T-SHIRTS SIZES L & XL. MAIL ORDERS TO **VERGE, 141 WEST BROADWAY, NYC, 10013.** CHECKS MADE PAYABLE TO VERGE.

NAME______________________

ADDRESS______________________

CITY______________ STATE_____ ZIP_______